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No. 43

## House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KILDEE).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
March 11, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DANIEL T. KILDEE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

### NEBRASKA CAREER PROGRAMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise to highlight several efforts in my Nebraska congressional district which prepare Nebraskans to join the workforce and encourage entrepreneurship.

I visited the New Heavy Equipment Operator Training program at the Hastings Campus of Central Community College. It provides both training and hands-on experience with heavy construction equipment.

Grand Island Public Schools actually has partnered with the Career Pathways Institute to offer courses on subjects ranging from business and marketing to human services and health science.

Arnold High School's only School House Graphic Products teaches students about technology, design, and business, with the opportunity to earn college credit through Mid-Plains Community College.

And Scottsbluff High School recently launched its career academies, including agriculture, business, and technical sciences.

These are just a few of the home-grown initiatives from across the State of Nebraska which are making a difference in the lives of Nebraskans, strengthening our workforce, and growing the economy.

### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KILDEE) at 2 p.m.

### PRAYER

Reverend Meg Peery McLaughlin, Burke Presbyterian Church, Burke, Virginia, offered the following prayer:

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, in You we live and move and have our being.

Amid these public servants, gathered to govern as they swore to do, we invoke Your presence, O God, greater

than we can ever grasp, and as near as the intake of our own breath.

Expose our stubborn bias that deprives our life. Reconstruct relationships to enliven joy in the work ahead. Ignite our integrity and right-size us in our britches. Refuse our apathy with an outpouring of Your hope. Untangle our pride and pain, allowing room for Your truth to creep in and guide our way.

We make this prayer resting in the promise that we belong to You, and thus to one another.

Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause one, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILLIAMS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### CONGRATULATING CARUTHERS GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

(Mr. COX of California asked and was given permission to address the House for one minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COX of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Caruthers girls basketball team, our CIF Division V State Basketball Champions.

On Friday afternoon, despite playing a school with roughly four times the

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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enrollment, our Blue Raiders rolled to an impressive 62 to 38 victory over Ramona-Riverside.

Friday's victory is a testament that hard work, practice, and teamwork is a recipe for success in any arena.

Coach Almeida put it best when she said her girls are, "Winners by nature. They're fighters and tough and never give up."

I am proud to represent: Anna Marshall, Eshnoor Gasoj, Felicia Ramirez, Jacklyn Kulow, Kathleen Duran, Destiny Giles, Jennyfer Balino, Paige Sterling, Aileen Cortez, Elvis Ponce, Jaque Magana, Malia Ishii, Mikayla Duran, and Jasmine Torres.

I am excited to see their future victories and the success I know they will continue to have on the court and in life.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Blue Raiders, our Division V California State Basketball Champions.

#### RECOGNIZING USMC LANCE CORPORAL PLUNK

(Mr. WILLIAMS asked and was given permission to address the House for one minute.)

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to recognize a member of the United States Marine Corps from the 25th District of Texas, Lance Corporal Alyssa Joy Plunk.

On December 20, 2018, a little over a year into her enlistment, the U.S. Marine Corps took notice of her impressive level of leadership and awarded her the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

During a training operation, she was tasked with transporting a number of people and cargo over 700 miles. Her review stated that her superior proficiency enabled her to negotiate challenging conditions without any incidents.

She was awarded for the professional achievement she demonstrated during this operation and for a job well done.

I think it goes without saying that the men and women who make up our Armed Forces are a unique bunch that embodies everything that is good about America.

They serve our country selflessly, and for that, I am eternally grateful.

I appreciate Lance Corporal Plunk's dedication to her country and am proud of all that she has already achieved in a short amount of time.

I am praying for her safety while she is deployed and look forward to her return.

God bless the United States Marine Corps.

In God We Trust.

#### THE ONGOING OPIOID CRISIS

(Mr. KATKO asked and was given permission to address the House for one minute.)

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the role of

fentanyl and other synthetic analogs in the ongoing opioid crisis facing our Nation.

Thousands of Americans die each year as a result of overdoses caused by these dangerous substances, which mimic the effects of street drugs, but are significantly more powerful and more dangerous.

During last week's Homeland Security hearing, I asked Secretary Nielsen about any recent significant seizures of fentanyl at America's borders. Secretary Nielsen's response was absolutely frightening, as she informed the committee that the amount of fentanyl seized by ICE in the last year alone was enough to kill every living American twice.

This statistic should trouble each and every one of my colleagues. Congress must take immediate action to ensure law enforcement has all the necessary tools to prevent illicit synthetic opioids from entering the country.

My bill last Congress, the Stop the Importation and Trafficking of Synthetic Analogues Act, would have addressed these issues, and I intend to reintroduce that bill in a similar legislative form in the coming months.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in the critical effort to combat substance abuse and save American lives.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bill was signed by the Speaker on Friday, March 8, 2019:

S. 49, to designate the outstation of the Department of Veterans Affairs in North Ogden, Utah, as the Major Brent Taylor Vet Center Outstation.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1601

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COX of California) at 4 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Mariel Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair

will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

#### HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER MOBILITY DEMONSTRATION ACT OF 2019

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1122) to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to carry out a housing choice voucher mobility demonstration to encourage families receiving such voucher assistance to move to lower-poverty areas and expand access to opportunity areas.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1122

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Housing Choice Voucher Mobility Demonstration Act of 2019".

#### SEC. 2. HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER MOBILITY DEMONSTRATION.

(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (in this section referred to as the "Secretary") may carry out a mobility demonstration program to enable public housing agencies to administer housing choice voucher assistance under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) in a manner designed to encourage families receiving such voucher assistance to move to lower-poverty areas and expand access to opportunity areas.

##### (b) SELECTION OF PHAS.—

(1) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall establish requirements for public housing agencies to participate in the demonstration program under this section, which shall provide that the following public housing agencies may participate:

(A) Public housing agencies that together—

(i) serve areas with high concentrations of holders of rental assistance vouchers under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) in poor, low-opportunity neighborhoods; and

(ii) have an adequate number of moderately priced rental units in higher-opportunity areas.

(B) Planned consortia or partial consortia of public housing agencies that—

(i) include at least one agency with a high-performing Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program; and

(ii) will enable participating families to continue in such program if they relocate to the jurisdiction served by any other agency of the consortium.

(C) Planned consortia or partial consortia of public housing agencies that—

(i) serve jurisdictions within a single region;

(ii) include one or more small agencies; and

(iii) will consolidate mobility focused operations.

(D) Such other public housing agencies as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(2) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall establish competitive selection criteria for public housing agencies eligible under paragraph (1) to participate in the demonstration program under this section.

(3) **RANDOM SELECTION OF FAMILIES.**—The Secretary may require participating agencies to use a randomized selection process to select among the families eligible to receive mobility assistance under the demonstration program.

(c) **REGIONAL HOUSING MOBILITY PLAN.**—The Secretary shall require each public housing agency applying to participate in the demonstration program under this section to submit a Regional Housing Mobility Plan (in this section referred to as a “Plan”), which shall—

(1) identify the public housing agencies that will participate under the Plan and the number of vouchers each participating agency will make available out of their existing programs in connection with the demonstration;

(2) identify any community-based organizations, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and other entities that will participate under the Plan and describe the commitments for such participation made by each such entity;

(3) identify any waivers or alternative requirements requested for the execution of the Plan;

(4) identify any specific actions that the public housing agencies and other entities will undertake to accomplish the goals of the demonstration, which shall include a comprehensive approach to enable a successful transition to opportunity areas and may include counseling and continued support for families;

(5) specify the criteria that the public housing agencies would use to identify opportunity areas under the plan;

(6) provide for establishment of priority and preferences for participating families, including a preference for families with young children, as such term is defined by the Secretary, based on regional housing needs and priorities; and

(7) comply with any other requirements established by the Secretary.

(d) **FUNDING FOR MOBILITY-RELATED SERVICES.**—

(1) **USE OF ADMINISTRATIVE FEES.**—Public housing agencies participating in the demonstration program under this section may use administrative fees under section 8(q) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(q)), their administrative fee reserves, and funding from private entities to provide mobility-related services in connection with the demonstration program, including services such as counseling, portability coordination, landlord outreach, security deposits, and administrative activities associated with establishing and operating regional mobility programs.

(2) **USE OF HOUSING ASSISTANCE FUNDS.**—Public housing agencies participating in the demonstration under this section may use housing assistance payments funds under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) for security deposits if necessary to enable families to lease units with vouchers in designated opportunity areas.

(e) **WAIVERS; ALTERNATIVE REQUIREMENTS.**—

(1) **WAIVERS.**—To allow for public housing agencies to implement and administer their Regional Housing Mobility Plans, the Secretary may waive or specify alternative requirements for the following provisions of the United States Housing Act of 1937:

(A) Sections 8(o)(7)(A) and 8(o)(13)(E)(i) (relating to the term of a lease and mobility requirements).

(B) Section 8(o)(13)(C)(i) (relating to the public housing plan for an agency).

(C) Section 8(r)(2) (relating to the responsibility of a public housing agency to administer assisted assistance).

(2) **ALTERNATIVE REQUIREMENTS.**—The Secretary shall provide additional authority for public housing agencies in a selected region to form a consortium that has a single housing choice voucher funding contract, or to enter into a partial consortium to operate all or portions of the Regional Housing Mobility Plan, including agencies participating in the Moving To Work Demonstration program.

(3) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—Any waiver or alternative requirements pursuant to this subsection shall not take effect before the expiration of the 10-day period beginning upon publication of notice of such waiver or alternative requirement in the Federal Register.

(f) **IMPLEMENTATION.**—The Secretary may implement the demonstration, including its terms, procedures, requirements, and conditions, by notice.

(g) **EVALUATION.**—Not later than 5 years after implementation of the regional housing mobility programs under the demonstration program under this section, the Secretary shall submit to the Congress and publish in the Federal Register a report evaluating the effectiveness of the strategies pursued under the demonstration, subject to the availability of funding to conduct the evaluation. Through official websites and other methods, the Secretary shall disseminate interim findings as they become available, and shall, if promising strategies are identified, notify the Congress of the amount of funds that would be required to expand the testing of these strategies in additional types of public housing agencies and housing markets.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, rigorous studies have demonstrated that giving a low-income family an opportunity to move to a lower-poverty neighborhood can have a profound impact, particularly for children.

For example, one study found that young boys and girls in families that used a voucher to move to lower-poverty neighborhoods were 32 percent more likely to attend college and earned 31 percent more, or nearly \$3,500 a year, compared to their counterparts in families who did not receive a voucher.

Unfortunately, families with housing choice vouchers who want to move to a better neighborhood can face significant challenges, particularly if it involves moving from one public housing agency jurisdiction to another. In fact, data shows that only one in eight families with children with a housing choice voucher use their vouchers to live in lower-poverty areas.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1122 would help reduce barriers to mobility by establishing a demonstration program that would enable and incentivize public housing agencies to come together to come up with a regional plan to increase mobility across their jurisdictions.

This is a bipartisan proposal that was included in HUD budget requests under the Obama administration. Further, \$25 million in funding for this demonstration was included in fiscal year 2019 funding bill for HUD programs, and a version of this bill passed the House last Congress 368 to 19.

This demonstration will not only provide thousands of families with opportunities to move to better neighborhoods, but it will also lay the foundation for how successful outcomes can be replicated at a larger scale across the country.

I congratulate the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLEAVER) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. DUFFY) for introducing this initiative.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to vote “yes” on H.R. 1122, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1122, the Housing Choice Voucher Mobility Demonstration Act of 2019.

As currently administered, housing vouchers often are insufficient in helping American families get access to neighborhoods with greater opportunities. That is why H.R. 1122 is so important.

A strong body of research shows that growing up in a safe, lower-poverty neighborhood with good schools improves children’s academic achievement and long-term chances of success, and may reduce intergenerational poverty.

A recent groundbreaking Harvard study found that young children in families who used housing vouchers to move to better neighborhoods fared much better as young adults than similar children who remained in extremely poor neighborhoods.

The Harvard study found that young boys and girls in families who use a voucher to move to lower-poverty neighborhoods were 32 percent more likely to attend college and earned 31 percent more as young adults than their counterparts in families who did not receive an MTO voucher. Girls in families who moved to lower-poverty neighborhoods were also 30 percent less likely to be single parents as adults.

And let us not forget that location also affects adults in many ways, such as access to jobs, the cost of getting to work, the feasibility of balancing child care responsibilities with work schedules, and other basic goods and services.

Voucher mobility is key to enabling families with children to move to safer neighborhoods with less poverty, thereby enhancing their chances of long-

term health and success. H.R. 1122 will provide the foundation for many of these key changes.

I thank Mr. DUFFY and Mr. CLEAVER for their hard work in looking into this issue and providing evidence-based solutions to affect positive change in families and communities.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 1122, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLEAVER), the chair of the Subcommittee on National Security, International Development and Monetary Policy.

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, this piece of legislation is particularly significant to me. I lived in public housing for 5 years. I saw what the possibilities were there. I saw people who did not make it, and I saw people who did make it.

The one thing that I found difficult to accept was the fact that if you lived in public housing, almost every rule made was designed, unintentionally, to keep you in public housing.

My father didn't tell the truth about the fact that he was cleaning up at an office building on Saturday earning some additional money and then serving at parties on the weekends. He had to pretend that that didn't happen because he was saving money trying to get our family in our own home. And it worked. He is watching C-SPAN right now, hearing his son talk about what could have happened.

The essence of this bill was passed as a part of the appropriations package that was signed into law earlier this year. It promotes housing mobility for individuals who rely on housing vouchers.

Under this bill, the Department of Housing and Urban Development would establish a demonstration program to allow interested public housing agencies to form consortia to enhance mobility and provide residents with increased opportunity to move to higher-income communities.

There is something contagious about working around only poor people. If you live in a neighborhood and all you see are people who are struggling, it is easy to come to the conclusion that that is the way life is: that you are just supposed to struggle and that you are just supposed to barely make it. If you don't see the signs of people who are making progress—people who are achieving—you might come to the conclusion that achievement is beyond one's reach.

This was demonstrated with a research project from Harvard economists Raj Chetty, Nathaniel Hendren, and Lawrence Katz which indicates that children who move to higher-opportunity neighborhoods increase their chances of success. More specifically, the study found that children who were able to use housing vouchers to move to lower-poverty areas were 32 percent more likely to attend college and

earned 31 percent more a year than their counterparts in lower-income neighborhoods.

This bill removes barriers by providing families with the tools to navigate a move from one neighborhood to another. H.R. 1122 will allow more families to thrive by increasing their access to higher performing schools, employment opportunities, fresh and affordably priced foods, and safe playgrounds.

There is something about homeownership or living in a nice neighborhood. Our family was able to move out. My father bought a house in a White neighborhood where we could not live and had it moved at night from the Midwestern Parkway to Gerald Street, where my father lives today. And, my goodness, I wish the world could see what transpired.

My father's yard is in contention with any yard in town for the yard of the summer. We had a water shortage in Texas—we had a drought, a serious drought 38 years ago—and my father would get up at 3 a.m. in the morning to trick the city people who would come out checking to see if anybody was violating the water ordinance by watering his lawn at 2, 3, or 4 a.m. in the morning.

While I am confessing my father broke the law, the truth of the matter is that it pleased me because we had never had a yard in my life until we were able to get out of public housing. So not only does it give the children an opportunity for a higher achievement educationally, but it also does something for the homeowner.

This bill removes barriers, and I am supportive of that.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Missouri.

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, friend, and former neighbor, SEAN DUFFY, who worked with me on this bill. And I also thank the chair and the ranking member of the committee for their continued support.

With this, I am hopeful that we can continue working across the aisle to promote housing opportunity for all of our constituents.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I reiterate my support for the bill.

I thank Mr. CLEAVER for his personal testimony today. It was very compelling. It is a tremendous story of success in the use of these things and how changing our neighborhoods can really be helpful.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1615

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that we were able to work in a bipartisan manner on this initiative. This bill shows that we can foster new ideas and help improve services and flexibility for our citizens who are receiving housing assistance.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) for his engagement on the bill, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1122.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

## FEDERAL RESERVE SUPERVISION TESTIMONY CLARIFICATION ACT

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 974) to amend the Federal Reserve Act to require the Vice Chairman for Supervision of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System to provide a written report, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 974

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Federal Reserve Supervision Testimony Clarification Act”.

### SEC. 2. VICE CHAIRMAN FOR SUPERVISION REPORT REQUIREMENT.

Paragraph (12) of section 10 of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 247b) is amended—

(1) by redesignating such paragraph as paragraph (11); and

(2) in such paragraph—

(A) by striking “shall appear” and inserting “shall provide written testimony and appear”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following: “If, at the time of any appearance described in this paragraph, the position of Vice Chairman for Supervision is vacant, the Chairman or their designee shall appear instead and provide the required written testimony.”.

### SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this is a very straightforward piece of legislation.

It clarifies that the Vice Chairman for Supervision is required to provide testimony along with his appearance before the committee.

Additionally, if the position is vacant, the bill makes clear that the Chair of the Board shall appear and provide testimony on supervision and regulation efforts.

I think it makes good sense to codify who at the Board will testify before Congress on the status of the Fed's supervisory efforts regardless of whether there is a person confirmed for the Vice Chairman for Supervision or not.

When Congress passed the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, it created the position of Vice Chairman for Supervision so that there was one Fed Board Governor who was responsible for ensuring robust rules for the Nation's largest financial institutions.

We now have a Vice Chairman for Supervision at the Fed, but the position had previously been vacant since its creation in 2010, so it is helpful to clarify how Congress will continue to be informed about developments at the Fed.

This bill already passed the House last year on a voice vote.

I thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GOTTHEIMER) and the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) for introducing this legislation.

I urge all Members to vote "yes" on H.R. 974.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 974, the Federal Reserve Supervision Testimony Clarification Act, an important bipartisan bill that will provide Congress greater oversight of regulation and supervision at the Federal Reserve.

The Vice Chairman for Supervision of the Federal Reserve exercises and oversees the Board's supervisory and regulatory authority over a variety of financial institutions and activities. This role is imperative to promote a safe, sound, and stable financial system that supports the growth and stability of the U.S. economy.

This bill before us today will ensure that the Federal Reserve will come forth and testify before Congress on issues relating to the supervision of financial institutions, giving added transparency to the American people, as well as increasing the Fed's accountability.

The issues overseen by this position are of high importance to the American people and our financial system. It is crucial that we have the ability to hear testimony and ask questions of the Federal Reserve on these complicated issues.

I would like to thank Congressman GOTTHEIMER for sponsoring and Congressman LUCAS for cosponsoring this much-needed legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS).

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to tell my colleagues about H.R. 974 and urge they pass it.

This is a bill about congressional oversight, pure and simple. As this body knows, Dodd-Frank gave the Federal Reserve greater regulatory authority and established the Vice Chairman for Supervision position to oversee those efforts; but the first confirmed appointee to that position took office in 2017, a full 7 years after Dodd-Frank.

During that time, Congress received minimal testimony on regulatory issues from the Fed. Typically, other officials who didn't oversee the regulatory efforts gave testimony in this regard. But the key point is, Dodd-Frank requires only the Vice Chairman for Supervision to give that testimony.

While we are grateful that other Federal officials decided to speak to Congress on regulatory issues, they didn't have to, under the law.

I introduced this bill last Congress as a way to prevent that situation from arising ever again. Under the bill, if there is no Vice Chairman for Supervision, either the Fed Chair or their designee will be required to give annual testimony on regulatory matters. It is that simple. As a result, this bill passed unanimously out of the Financial Services Committee last Congress.

As I said, this bill is about the oversight authority of Congress and the other constituents we represent.

It remains vitally important that we and our Senate friends hear from knowledgeable regulatory officials at these agencies, particularly when these regulations have a large effect on the capital money markets; otherwise, our constituents will become even more distrustful of government.

Transparency is key. In fact, it is one of the largest responsibilities of the Members of Congress. This promotes that responsibility and, thus, deserves to be passed.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate Mr. GOTTHEIMER's willingness to bring this bill to the floor. I thank the chairwoman and the ranking member for supporting this bill. I hope my colleagues will follow this example and vote in favor.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased with the bipartisan cooperation shown by this legislation and fully sup-

port the efforts of the sponsors to increase accountability and transparency.

I want to thank the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) for his engagement on the bill and, again, urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation, H.R. 974.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 974, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## FINCEN IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2019

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1414) to amend the duties of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) to ensure FinCEN works with Tribal law enforcement agencies, protects against all forms of terrorism, and focuses on virtual currencies.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1414

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "FinCEN Improvement Act of 2019".

### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) The mission of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) is to safeguard the financial system from illicit use and combat money laundering and promote national security through the collection, analysis, and dissemination of financial intelligence and strategic use of financial authorities.

(2) In its mission to safeguard the financial system from the abuses of financial crime, including terrorist financing, money laundering and other illicit activity, the United States should prioritize working with partners in Federal, State, local, Tribal, and foreign law enforcement authorities.

(3) The Federal Bureau of Investigation has stated that since the terror attacks on September 11, 2001, "The threat landscape has expanded considerably, though it is important to note that the more traditional threat posed by al Qaeda and its affiliates is still present and active. The threat of domestic terrorism also remains persistent overall, with actors crossing the line from First Amendment protected rights to committing crimes to further their political agenda."

(4) Although the use and trading of virtual currencies are legal practices, some terrorists and criminals, including international criminal organizations, seek to exploit vulnerabilities in the global financial system and are increasingly using emerging payment methods such as virtual currencies to move illicit funds.

(5) In carrying out its mission, FinCEN should prioritize all forms of terrorism and

emerging methods of terrorism and illicit finance.

### SEC. 3. STRENGTHENING FINCEN.

Section 310 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (C)—

(A) in clause (i), by striking “appropriate Federal, State, local, and foreign law enforcement agencies” and inserting “appropriate Federal, State, local, Tribal, and foreign law enforcement agencies”; and

(B) in clause (vi), by striking “to protect against international terrorism” and inserting “to protect against terrorism”;

(2) in paragraph (E), by striking “appropriate Federal, State, local, and foreign law enforcement authorities” and inserting “appropriate Federal, State, local, Tribal, and foreign law enforcement authorities”;

(3) in paragraph (F), by striking “Federal, State, local, and foreign law enforcement” and inserting “Federal, State, local, Tribal, and foreign law enforcement”;

(4) in paragraph (H), by striking “anti-terrorism and anti-money laundering initiatives, and similar efforts” and inserting “anti-terrorism and anti-money laundering initiatives, including matters involving emerging technologies or value that substitutes for currency, and similar efforts”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the FinCEN Improvement Act is a bill that will strengthen the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, FinCEN, our national security, and our financial system. A form of this bipartisan bill was introduced last year with the exact same language, and it unanimously passed the House on suspension by voice vote.

Currently, FinCEN works with Federal, State, local, and foreign law enforcement authorities in its anti-money laundering/counter terror financing objectives. Although Tribal law enforcement is a strong partner in fighting crime and safeguarding our country's national security, they are not yet listed in the FinCEN statute alongside their law enforcement partners.

Though FinCEN voluntarily works with Tribal law enforcement in these objectives, this legislation will make FinCEN's assistance to Tribal law enforcement mandatory. This bill will also amend FinCEN's statute to protect against all forms of terrorism. As written, the underlying statute only requires the protection against international terrorism.

While the United States faces a serious threat from foreign terrorist orga-

nizations, the threat from both home-grown violent extremists and domestic terrorists has sharply increased within the past several years. Although this type of terrorism has been less discussed in the news cycle, these terrorists are equally as dangerous as international terrorist organizations, if not more.

In fact, a survey of 382 law enforcement agencies, conducted with the Police Executive Research Forum with funding from the National Institute of Justice, found that 74 percent of the law enforcement agencies reported antigovernment extremism, such as sovereign citizen extremism, as one of the top terrorist threats in their jurisdictions. This part of the bill will ensure that a proper focus be paid to all forms of terrorism.

Additionally, this bill will require FinCEN to work with foreign financial intelligence units on anti-money laundering and counter terror financing initiatives with respect to emerging technologies such as cryptocurrencies, which are increasingly used by terrorists and transnational criminals.

As the threat environment has changed with the birth and prominence of cryptocurrencies, online marketplaces, and the dark web, FinCEN needs to coordinate with and support our international partners that share our common anti-money laundering/counter terror financing goals.

For these reasons, I am proud to support this legislation, and I congratulate Congresswoman WEXTON and Congressman RIGGLEMAN for introducing this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to vote “yes” on this important legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1414, the FinCEN Improvement Act.

This bipartisan piece of legislation passed the House by a voice vote last Congress. I am happy to see that my colleague, Congressman RIGGLEMAN of Virginia, has joined Congresswoman WEXTON in reintroducing it this Congress.

This is the first piece of cosponsored legislation Congressman RIGGLEMAN had on the floor, and the fact that it focuses on terrorism speaks directly to his past service in the Air Force and his continued effort to protect the American people from bad actors. Mr. Speaker, I thank him and Congresswoman WEXTON for leading this fight to protect the American people.

H.R. 1414 outlines how the terror landscape in our post-9/11 world has expanded.

Now, we are tasked with protecting the American people not only from traditional threats posed by groups like al-Qaida abroad, but also domestic terrorism, where crimes are committed on U.S. soil by both foreign and U.S. persons.

H.R. 1414 mandates that FinCEN focus on all forms of terror, not just foreign terror campaigns. This is a commonsense update to the statute that would bring added clarity to our antiterrorism laws.

H.R. 1414 also strengthens FinCEN by ensuring cooperation with Tribal law enforcement agencies and the prioritization of virtual currencies.

□ 1630

Illicit actors have been found to be using virtual currencies because of their ability to provide anonymity. Some virtual currencies have been shown to frustrate law enforcement's efforts to link transactions to people or IP addresses.

It is for this exact reason that FinCEN needs to be able to allocate resources and manpower to investigate and thwart instances of terrorism that involve all forms of virtual currencies.

Mr. Speaker, it is our sworn duty to protect the American people, and H.R. 1414 allows FinCEN to adapt its investigative abilities to prevent terrorism in our digital age.

Again, I thank Ms. WEXTON and Mr. RIGGLEMAN for their leadership, and I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. WEXTON).

Ms. WEXTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1414, the FinCEN Improvement Act, bipartisan legislation I introduced with my Financial Services Committee colleague and fellow Virginian, Congressman DENVER RIGGLEMAN.

This is a practical bill that will help modernize the duties of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, otherwise known as FinCEN. The mission of FinCEN is to safeguard the financial system from crimes or illicit use, such as terrorist financing; combat money laundering; and promote national security through the collection, analysis, and dissemination of financial information and intelligence.

H.R. 1414 would do three things to further their important mission.

First is in the area of investigation into terror financing. FinCEN is currently authorized to combat international terrorism but fails to mention domestic terror activities. While international terror threats remain present and relevant, the threat landscape has expanded considerably and also includes domestic terror groups that commit crimes to further their agendas.

H.R. 1414 will amend the FinCEN authorizing legislation to clarify its role in investigating and combating terror threats, be they foreign or domestic. FinCEN is already doing important work to combat domestic terrorism, but the bill will clarify its role and correct this oversight in the statute.

Second, the virtual currency landscape is rapidly evolving and many of these technologies did not exist when previous laws and regulations were written. H.R. 1414 will help FinCEN combat emerging methods of financing illicit activity, including the use of cryptocurrency.

Finally, the FinCEN Improvement Act builds on existing relationships with law enforcement partners by ensuring that FinCEN has the authority to work not only with Federal, State, and local law enforcement, but also with Tribal law enforcement across the country.

I am proud to cosponsor this bill, Mr. Speaker, and I urge our colleagues to support it.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. RIGGLEMAN), one of our outstanding freshmen from the freshman class of this past fall.

Mr. RIGGLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I am proud to rise in support as the lead Republican sponsor of H.R. 1414, the FinCEN Improvement Act of 2019.

I thank my colleague and fellow Member from the Commonwealth of Virginia, Representative JENNIFER WEXTON, for her work on this legislation. This bill is a tangible example of what Congress can accomplish when we put aside our differences and work together.

FinCEN, or the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, is a critical component of law enforcement, as the agency is charged with promoting national security by safeguarding our financial system.

Terrorists, drug smugglers, human traffickers, and other criminal actors are constantly innovating and creating new ways to exploit the system. Bad actors know the current limitations of law enforcement and how to profit immensely from our weaknesses as they are constantly developing their tactics, techniques, and procedures, or TTPs, based on our security posture.

It is FinCEN's mission to cut the head off the snake and combat illicit financing of these activities. This bill will strengthen FinCEN in three key areas.

First, it strengthens FinCEN by codifying the domestic responsibilities of combating illicit finance. We know all too well the danger international terrorists pose, but it is equally important that we police criminal financial activity domestically as well. By reinforcing FinCEN's domestic mandate, we are sending a message to all Americans that we will not tolerate criminal activity either at home or abroad.

Second, this bill adds Tribal law enforcement to the list of FinCEN partners. By ensuring robust and comprehensive law enforcement partners, we are equipping the agencies charged with safeguarding our financial system with the necessary tools and information to execute their mission. Partnering with Tribal law enforce-

ment closes a potential loophole that terrorists can use to inject illicit money into the system.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, this bill clearly incorporates cryptocurrencies and other emerging technologies that substitute for currency.

As financial technology, or fintech, evolves, so do the opportunities for criminals to take advantage of the financial system. We must ensure that our law enforcement agencies have a clear directive from Congress to take on all challenges and risks facing our financial system.

Mr. Speaker, today, I ask all my colleagues in the people's House to join me and Ms. WEXTON by voting in favor of this legislation.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I reiterate my support for H.R. 1414, the FinCEN Improvement Act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that Ms. WEXTON and Mr. RIGGLEMAN have brought this issue to the full House. It addresses key gaps in our efforts to fight financial crime, something we all should support.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1414.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### COOPERATE WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND WATCH ACT OF 2019

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 758) to provide a safe harbor for financial institutions that maintain a customer account or customer transaction at the request of a Federal or State law enforcement agency, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 758

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Cooperate with Law Enforcement Agencies and Watch Act of 2019".

#### SEC. 2. SAFE HARBOR WITH RESPECT TO KEEP OPEN LETTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 53 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

**"§ 5333. Safe harbor with respect to keep open letters**

**"(a) IN GENERAL.—**With respect to a customer account or customer transaction of a

financial institution, if a Federal, State, Tribal, or local law enforcement agency requests, in writing, the financial institution to keep such account or transaction open—

**"(1)** the financial institution shall not be liable under this subchapter for maintaining such account or transaction consistent with the parameters of the request; and

**"(2)** no Federal or State department or agency may take any adverse supervisory action under this subchapter with respect to the financial institution for maintaining such account or transaction consistent with the parameters of the request.

**"(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—**Nothing in this section may be construed—

**"(1)** from preventing a Federal or State department or agency from verifying the validity of a written request described under subsection (a) with the Federal, State, Tribal, or local law enforcement agency making the written request; or

**"(2)** to relieve a financial institution from complying with any reporting requirements, including the reporting of suspicious transactions under section 5318(g).

**"(c) LETTER TERMINATION DATE.—**For purposes of this section, any written request described under subsection (a) shall include a termination date after which such request shall no longer apply."

**(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—**The table of contents for chapter 53 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 5332 the following:

**"5333. Safe harbor with respect to keep open letters."**

#### SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 758 would strengthen cooperation between financial institutions and law enforcement agencies to better detect, deter, and combat terrorism and financial crimes.

With respect to the Bank Secrecy Act anti-money laundering, referred to as BSA/AML, supervisory actions, this bill would carve out a narrow safe harbor for financial institutions to keep a customer's account open at the written request of a law enforcement agency, including those at the Federal, State, local, and Tribal levels.

This cooperation will enable law enforcement agencies to follow the money in the bank accounts of terrorists, human traffickers, corrupt officials, and those involved with organized crime.

Of equal importance, the legislation provides an assurance to financial institutions, clarifying that they will not be held liable for their cooperation and collaboration with law enforcement in helping to thwart illicit finance.

I will note that law enforcement agencies are currently expected to provide a written notice to financial institutions, requesting that the accounts of bad actors remain open to monitor transactions and build stronger criminal cases. However, this practice does not always happen and exposes financial institutions to enforcement actions from their banking regulators. Banks should not be put in a position to choose whether or not to help law enforcement out of concern about regulatory consequences.

We simply cannot allow bad actors to launder money and finance terror through our banks. H.R. 758 will encourage financial institutions to maintain a strong partnership with law enforcement.

In the 115th Congress, this bill was unanimously approved by the Financial Services Committee. The House passed the bill by a vote of 379-4.

I thank the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. FOSTER) for introducing this bipartisan piece of legislation. This bill is one example of our committee's efforts to fight terrorism, corruption, and financial crime. I urge all Members to vote "yes" on H.R. 758. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, first, let me thank Chairwoman WATERS for her work on this bill. I am delighted the House is considering this important bill, H.R. 758, which I have had the pleasure to work on over the past year with my good friend from Illinois, Congressman FOSTER.

As a former community banker, I have dealt with the conflict of wanting to help law enforcement agencies when receiving a keep open letter, but not being able to because of the need to comply with the requirements set forth by a regulator, frequently and often in the middle of a bank exam.

Today, the overall purpose of this bill is to support law enforcement and reduce money laundering and terrorist financing through our banking system. That is why, along with my friend Mr. FOSTER, I was pleased to introduce this, as the chairwoman said, narrow, commonsense bill, which enables partnerships without repercussions between law enforcement and our local financial institutions.

This legislation allows law enforcement to monitor cash flows associated with criminal investigations in finan-

cial institutions. Under the Bank Secrecy Act and anti-money laundering regulations, banks face strict rules for managing accounts so that they cannot facilitate money laundering, terrorism financing, drug running, and other illegal activities.

Sometimes, banks receive notices from law enforcement agencies known as keep open letters to encourage them to keep an account open so that law enforcement can monitor what they think to be and suspect to be criminal activity and track the payments for better monitoring.

I have heard recently from banks that they are seeing an increase in the number of keep open letters, many of which can be attributable to new human trafficking investigations. Allowing banks to keep these accounts open will help stop these terrible criminal actions.

Currently, if banks help law enforcement and comply with the keep open letter request, they face the risk of being penalized by someone from the same regulatory agency. This commonsense bill supports those efforts by law enforcement by allowing financial institutions to comply with such requests to maintain a suspicious account without being penalized in the middle of a bank exam. Under this bill, no Federal department or agency may take an adverse supervisory action with respect to the financial institution that is keeping the account open.

As the chairwoman said, last Congress, this legislation unanimously passed out of our House Financial Services Committee and passed under the suspension of the rules. The legislation was also included as a provision last Congress in the JOBS 3.0 package.

Chairman WATERS and former Chairman Hensarling made fighting illicit finance a priority for our committee. Given the strong bipartisanship, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this measure. It will give law enforcement the tools it needs to prosecute bad actors who are exploiting our financial system.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. FOSTER).

□ 1645

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman WATERS for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to start by thanking the chairwoman for bringing up this bipartisan bill today and for maintaining bipartisan momentum in the areas where bipartisan agreement is achievable. Chairwoman WATERS and her staff were instrumental in passing this bill in the last Congress and including it in JOBS 3.0.

I would also like to thank my friend, Congressman HILL, for working on the Cooperate with Law Enforcement Agencies and Watch Act, the CLAW Act, with me.

I am proud to support this bill, which passed with very strong bipartisan sup-

port in the last Congress, a 55-0 vote in the Financial Services Committee, a 379-4 vote on the House floor.

This bill creates a commonsense safe harbor from Bank Secrecy Act liability for a bank that keeps an account open at the request of law enforcement. For background, law enforcement agencies sometimes send what are called keep open letters to financial institutions so that they can obtain critical evidence in investigations by following the money.

While following these law enforcement requests is optional, agreeing to them does, in fact, create a technical violation of the Bank Secrecy Act. This complicates the decision for a financial institution that should be simple. This could, in fact, undermine our efforts to prevent illicit finance or money laundering.

This bill will enhance the ability of the law enforcement community to track funds in a criminal investigation, leading to better evidence and, hopefully, conviction of criminals higher up in the hierarchy. To be clear, nothing in this bill takes away from financial regulators' safety and soundness powers, and financial institutions still have to file SARs when they have a keep open letter.

In addition, this bill requires that the keep open letters have a definite duration but does not preclude law enforcement from sending subsequent letters to extend the period, should the investigation continue.

This bill is a great example of how Democrats and Republicans can come together on a number of issues of common interest.

In a world in which criminals and criminal organizations have access to increasingly sophisticated tools and technologies to carry out their criminal activities, we should help financial institutions in leveling the playing field to bring these criminals to justice.

This bill follows other commonsense, bipartisan efforts that I have supported to modernize our Nation's ability to confront dangerous criminals and criminal organizations. I recently introduced with Congressman KUSTOFF the CONFRONT Act, which would require the Treasury Department to develop a national strategy to combat the financial crimes of transnational criminal organizations and individuals. I am hopeful that this bill can also be passed in the near future with similarly strong bipartisan support.

This bill today is an important measure that allows financial institutions to effectively assist with combating crimes such as money laundering and illicit financing, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers on this side of the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would just simply urge, with the work done by Mr. FOSTER and myself, and with thanks to

the Chair, that we have strong bipartisan support in favor of H.R. 758, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that Mr. HILL and Mr. FOSTER have brought this measure to the House on a bipartisan basis. It will help provide law enforcement more access to the critical information it needs and in a timely manner.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 758, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### THE BUDGET MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116-3)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed:

##### *To the Congress of the United States:*

In just over 2 years, together with the American people, we have launched an unprecedented economic boom. Since I was elected, we have created more than 5 million new jobs, including half a million manufacturing jobs. Nearly 5 million Americans have been lifted off food stamps. Unemployment is the lowest in nearly half a century. African American unemployment, Hispanic American unemployment, and Asian American unemployment rates have all reached historic lows. Our Nation is experiencing an economic miracle—and it is improving the lives of all our citizens.

We have achieved these extraordinary gains thanks to historic tax cuts and an unprecedented regulatory reduction campaign, through unleashing American energy production, systematically fixing bad trade deals, and remaining absolutely committed to putting the needs of the American worker first.

My Administration worked with the Congress to pass unprecedented legislation to confront the opioid crisis, a sweeping new farm bill, groundbreaking criminal justice reform, major investments to rebuild the military, and historic Department of

Veterans Affairs reforms to ensure that our great veterans have access to high quality healthcare.

We are also making our communities safer. To target violent crime, my Administration has increased support for Federal, State, and local law enforcement. We have added nearly 200 new violent crime prosecutors across the United States. And last year, the Department of Justice prosecuted more violent crimes than ever before. As a result, violent crime is falling.

My Administration is confronting the national security and humanitarian crisis on our southern border, and we are accepting the moral duty to create an immigration system that protects the lives and jobs of our citizens. This includes our obligation to the millions of immigrants living in the United States today who followed the rules and respected our laws.

In the 20th century, America saved freedom, transformed science, and defined the middle class standard of living. Now we must write the next chapter of the great American adventure, turbo-charging the industries of the future and establishing a new standard of living for the 21st century. An amazing quality of life for all of our citizens is within reach. We can make our communities safer, our families stronger, our culture richer, our faith deeper, and our middle class bigger and more prosperous than ever before.

We are now addressing our challenges from a position of strength. My 2020 Budget builds on the tremendous progress we have made and provides a clear roadmap for the Congress to bring Federal spending and debt under control. We must protect future generations from Washington's habitual deficit spending.

This year, I asked most executive departments and agencies to cut their budgets by at least 5 percent. In addition to reflecting those reductions, my Budget invests in the following priorities:

Securing our Borders and Protecting our Sovereignty. As President, my highest duty is the defense of our Nation—which is why finishing the border wall is an urgent national priority. All who are privileged to hold elected office must work together to create an immigration system that promotes wage growth and economic opportunity, while preventing drugs, terrorism, and crime from entering the United States. Immigration policy, like all policy, must serve the interests of Americans living here today—including the millions of new Americans who came here legally to join our national family. The American people are entitled to a strong border that stops illegal immigration, and a responsible visa policy that protects our security and our workforce. My Budget continues to reflect these priorities, and I look forward to working with the Congress to finish the border wall and build a safe, just, and lawful immigration system that will benefit generations of Americans to come.

Preserving Peace through Strength. A strong military, fully integrated with our allies and all our instruments of power, enables our Nation to deter war, preserve peace, and, if necessary, defeat aggression against United States interests. To that end, my Budget requests \$750 billion for national defense, an increase of \$34 billion, or 5 percent, from the 2019 enacted level. The Budget funds the National Security Strategy and National Defense Strategy, building on the major gains we have already made throughout the world.

Protecting our Veterans. Our Nation's brave warriors and defenders deserve the best care America has to offer—both during and after their active service. Last year, I signed into law the historic VA MISSION Act of 2018 to reform and transform the Department of Veterans Affairs healthcare system into an integrated system for the 21st century. My Budget fully funds all requirements for veterans' healthcare services and provides additional funding to implement the VA MISSION Act of 2018.

Investing in America's Students and Workers. To help protect taxpayer dollars, my Budget continues my request to create an educational finance system that requires postsecondary institutions that accept taxpayer funds to have skin in the game through a student loan risk-sharing program. My Administration will also continue to seek expanded Pell Grant eligibility for high-quality, short-term programs in high-demand fields, so that students and workers can quickly gain valuable skills at a more affordable cost and obtain family-sustaining jobs. We must create and invest in better opportunities for our Nation's students and job seekers, while ensuring that we do so in a more efficient and effective manner.

Research for Childhood Cancers. Many childhood cancers have not seen new therapies in decades. My Budget initiates a new effort that invests \$500 million over the next 10 years to support this critical life-saving research.

Defeating HIV/AIDS in America. The HIV epidemic still plagues our Nation, with more than 38,000 Americans infected every year. In response, my Budget provides \$291 million to the Department of Health and Human Services to defeat the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The goal is to eliminate most new infections within 5 years (75 percent) and nearly all within 10 years (90 percent). This initiative will focus efforts on diagnosis, prevention, and treatment efforts in the locations where intense transmissions of the virus are driving the epidemic.

Confronting the Opioid Epidemic. My Budget continues historic levels of funding for our law enforcement, prevention, and treatment efforts to combat the opioid and drug addiction epidemic.

Supporting Working Families. America must also lead in supporting the

families of our workforce so that they can balance the competing demands of work and family. My Budget includes a one-time, mandatory investment of \$1 billion for a competitive fund aimed at supporting under-served populations and stimulating employer investments in child care for working families. My Administration has also pledged to provide paid parental leave to help working parents, and we are committed to partnering with the Congress to enact this important policy.

We must always strive to uphold our oaths to promote and protect the personal and economic freedoms the Constitution guarantees to us all.

We must work together to renew the bonds of love and loyalty that link us to one another—as friends, as citizens, as neighbors, as patriots, and as Americans.

My Budget reflects my Administration's commitment to these worthy goals as it seeks to make the United States of America wealthier, stronger, safer, and greater for every American family and neighborhood.

DONALD J. TRUMP.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 11, 2019.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, March 11, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
*The Speaker, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on March 11, 2019, at 2:14 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 725.

Appointment:

Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 today.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 58 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ESPAILLAT) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. CON. RES. 24, EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE REPORT OF SPECIAL COUNSEL MUELLER SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AND TO CONGRESS, AND PROVIDING FOR PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PERIOD FROM MARCH 15, 2019, THROUGH MARCH 22, 2019

Mr. DESAULNIER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116-17) on the resolution (H. Res. 208) providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 24) expressing the sense of Congress that the report of Special Counsel Mueller should be made available to the public and to Congress, and providing for proceedings during the period from March 15, 2019, through March 22, 2019, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

H.R. 1122, by the yeas and nays; and

H.R. 758, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the second electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

#### HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER MOBILITY DEMONSTRATION ACT OF 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1122) to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to carry out a housing choice voucher mobility demonstration to encourage families receiving such voucher assistance to move to lower-poverty areas and expand access to opportunity areas, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 387, nays 22, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 119]

YEAS—387

Adams  
Aderholt  
Aguilar  
Allen  
Allred

Amodei  
Armstrong  
Arrington  
Axne  
Babin

Bacon  
Baird  
Balderson  
Banks  
Barr

Barragán  
Bass  
Beatty  
Bera  
Bergman  
Beyer  
Bilirakis  
Bishop (GA)  
Bishop (UT)  
Blumenauer  
Blunt Rochester  
Bonamici  
Bost  
Boyle, Brendan  
F.  
Brady  
Brindisi  
Brooks (IN)  
Brown (MD)  
Brownley (CA)  
Buchanan  
Bucshon  
Budd  
Burchett  
Burgess  
Bustos  
Butterfield  
Calvert  
Carbajal  
Cárdenas  
Carson (IN)  
Carter (GA)  
Carter (TX)  
Cartwright  
Case  
Casten (IL)  
Castor (FL)  
Castro (TX)  
Chabot  
Cheney  
Chu, Judy  
Cicilline  
Cisneros  
Clark (MA)  
Clarke (NY)  
Clay  
Cleaver  
Clyburn  
Cohen  
Cole  
Collins (GA)  
Collins (NY)  
Comer  
Conaway  
Connolly  
Cook  
Cooper  
Correa  
Costa  
Courtney  
Cox (CA)  
Craig  
Crawford  
Crenshaw  
Crist  
Crow  
Cuellar  
Cummings  
Cunningham  
Curtis  
Davids (KS)  
Davidson (OH)  
Davis (CA)  
Davis, Danny K.  
Davis, Rodney  
Dean  
DeFazio  
DeGette  
DeLauro  
DelBene  
Delgado  
Demings  
DeSaulnier  
DesJarlais  
Deutch  
Diaz-Balart  
Dingell  
Doggett  
Doyle, Michael  
F.  
Duffy  
Duncan  
Dunn  
Emmer  
Escobar  
Eshoo  
Espallat  
Estes  
Evans

Ferguson  
Finkenauer  
Fitzpatrick  
Fleischmann  
Fletcher  
Fortenberry  
Foster  
Foxo (NC)  
Frankel  
Fudge  
Fulcher  
Gallagher  
Garamendi  
Garcia (IL)  
Garcia (TX)  
Gianforte  
Gibbs  
Golden  
Gomez  
Gonzalez (OH)  
Gonzalez (TX)  
Gooden  
Gottheimer  
Granger  
Graves (GA)  
Graves (LA)  
Graves (MO)  
Green (TX)  
Griffith  
Guest  
Guthrie  
Haaland  
Hagedorn  
Harder (CA)  
Hastings  
Heck  
Hern, Kevin  
Herrera Beutler  
Higgins (NY)  
Hill (AR)  
Hill (CA)  
Himes  
Murphy  
Nadler  
Hollingsworth  
Horn, Kendra S.  
Horsford  
Houlahan  
Hoyer  
Hudson  
Huffman  
Huizenga  
Hunter  
Hurd (TX)  
Jackson Lee  
Jayapal  
Jeffries  
Johnson (GA)  
Johnson (OH)  
Johnson (SD)  
Johnson (TX)  
Jordan  
Joyce (OH)  
Joyce (PA)  
Kaptur  
Katko  
Keating  
Kelly (IL)  
Kelly (MS)  
Kelly (PA)  
Kennedy  
Khanna  
Kildee  
Kilmer  
Kim  
Kind  
King (IA)  
King (NY)  
Kinzinger  
Kirkpatrick  
Krishnamoorthi  
Kuster (NH)  
Kustoff (TN)  
LaHood  
LaMalfa  
Lamb  
Lamborn  
Langevin  
Larsen (WA)  
Larson (CT)  
Latta  
Lawrence  
Lawson (FL)  
Lee (CA)  
Lee (NV)  
Lesko  
Levin (CA)  
Levin (MI)  
Lewis  
Lieu, Ted

Lipinski  
Loebach  
Loftgren  
Long  
Loudermilk  
Lowenthal  
Lowey  
Lucas  
Luetkemeyer  
Luján  
Luria  
Lynch  
Malinowski  
Maloney,  
Carolyn B.  
Maloney, Sean  
Marchant  
Marshall  
Mast  
Matsui  
McAdams  
McBath  
McCarthy  
McCaul  
McCollum  
McEachin  
McGovern  
McHenry  
McKinley  
McNerney  
Meadows  
Meng  
Meuser  
Miller  
Mitchell  
Moolenaar  
Mooney (WV)  
Morelle  
Moulton  
Mucarsel-Powell  
Mullin  
Murphy  
Nadler  
Napolitano  
Neal  
Neguse  
Newhouse  
Norcross  
Norman  
Nunes  
O'Halleran  
Ocasio-Cortez  
Olson  
Omar  
Palazzo  
Pallone  
Palmer  
Panetta  
Pappas  
Pascarelli  
Payne  
Pence  
Perlmutter  
Peters  
Peterson  
Phillips  
Pingree  
Porter  
Posey  
Pressley  
Quigley  
Raskin  
Ratcliffe  
Reed  
Reschenthaler  
Rice (NY)  
Rice (SC)  
Richmond  
Riggleman  
Roby  
Rodgers (WA)  
Roe, David P.  
Rogers (AL)  
Rogers (KY)  
Rooney (FL)  
Rose (NY)  
Rose, John W.  
Rouda  
Rouzer  
Roybal-Allard  
Ruiz  
Ruppersberger  
Rutherford  
Sarbanes  
Scalise  
Scanlon  
Schakowsky  
Schiff  
Schneider

Schrader  
Schrier  
Schweikert  
Scott (VA)  
Scott, Austin  
Scott, David  
Sensenbrenner  
Serrano  
Sewell (AL)  
Shalala  
Sherman  
Sherrill  
Shimkus  
Simpson  
Sires  
Slotkin  
Smith (MO)  
Smith (NE)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (WA)  
Smucker  
Soto  
Spanberger  
Spino  
Speier  
Stanton  
Stauber

Stefanik  
Steil  
Stevens  
Stewart  
Stivers  
Suozzi  
Takano  
Taylor  
Thompson (CA)  
Thompson (MS)  
Thompson (PA)  
Thornberry  
Timmons  
Tipton  
Titus  
Tonko  
Torres (CA)  
Torres Small  
(NM)  
Trahan  
Trone  
Turner  
Underwood  
Van Drew  
Vargas  
Veasey  
Vela

Velázquez  
Visclosky  
Wagner  
Walberg  
Walden  
Walorski  
Waltz  
Waters  
Watkins  
Watson Coleman  
Webster (FL)  
Welch  
Wenstrup  
Westerman  
Wexton  
Wild  
Williams  
Wilson (FL)  
Wilson (SC)  
Wittman  
Womack  
Woodall  
Wright  
Yarmuth  
Zeldin

## NAYS—22

Amash  
Biggs  
Brooks (AL)  
Buck  
Cline  
Cloud  
Gaetz  
Gohmert

Gosar  
Green (TN)  
Grothman  
Harris  
Hice (GA)  
Higgins (LA)  
Massie  
McClintock

## NOT VOTING—22

Abraham  
Byrne  
Engel  
Flores  
Gabbard  
Gallo  
Grijalva  
Hartzler

Hayes  
Johnson (LA)  
Meeks  
Moore  
Pocan  
Price (NC)  
Rush  
Ryan

Sánchez  
Swalwell (CA)  
Tlaib  
Upton  
Walker  
Wasserman  
Schultz

□ 1856

Messrs. HICE of Georgia, YOHO, and WEBER of Texas changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I missed the vote on Roll Call No. 119. Had I been present, I would have voted “Yea”.

# COOPERATE WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND WATCH ACT OF 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 758) to provide a safe harbor for financial institutions that maintain a customer account or customer transaction at the request of a Federal or State law enforcement agency, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 404, nays 7, not voting 20, as follows:

[Roll No. 120]

## YEAS—404

Adams  
Aderholt  
Aguiar  
Allen  
Allred  
Amodei  
Armstrong  
Arrington  
Axne  
Babin  
Bacon  
Baird  
Balderson  
Banks  
Barragán  
Bass  
Beatty  
Bera  
Bergman  
Beyer  
Biggs  
Bilirakis  
Bishop (GA)  
Bishop (UT)  
Blumenauer  
Blunt Rochester  
Bonamici  
Bost  
Boyle, Brendan  
F.  
Brady  
Brindisi  
Brooks (AL)  
Brooks (IN)  
Brown (MD)  
Brownley (CA)  
Buchanan  
Buck  
Bucshon  
Budd  
Burchett  
Bustos  
Butterfield  
Byrne  
Calvert  
Carbajal  
Cárdenas  
Carson (IN)  
Carter (GA)  
Carter (TX)  
Cartwright  
Case  
Casten (IL)  
Castor (FL)  
Castro (TX)  
Chabot  
Cheney  
Chu, Judy  
Cielline  
Cisneros  
Clark (MA)  
Clarke (NY)  
Clay  
Cleaver  
Cloud  
Clyburn  
Cohen  
Cole  
Collins (GA)  
Collins (NY)  
Comer  
Conaway  
Connolly  
Cook  
Cooper  
Correa  
Costa  
Courtney  
Cox (CA)  
Craig  
Crawford  
Crenshaw  
Crist  
Crow  
Cuellar  
Cummings  
Cunningham  
Curtis  
Davids (KS)  
Davidson (OH)  
Davis (CA)  
Davis, Danny K.  
Davis, Rodney  
Dean  
DeFazio

DeGette  
DeLauro  
DelBene  
Delgado  
Demings  
DeSaulnier  
DesJarlais  
Deutch  
Diaz-Balart  
Dingell  
Doggett  
Doyle, Michael  
F.  
Duffy  
Duncan  
Dunn  
Bass  
Escobar  
Eshoo  
Español  
Estes  
Evans  
Ferguson  
Finkenauer  
Fitzpatrick  
Fleischmann  
Fletcher  
Fortenberry  
Foster  
Foxy (NC)  
Frankel  
Fudge  
Fulcher  
Gaetz  
Gallagher  
Garamendi  
Garcia (IL)  
Garcia (TX)  
Gianforte  
Gibbs  
Gohmert  
Golden  
Gomez  
Gonzalez (OH)  
Gonzalez (TX)  
Gooden  
Gottheimer  
Granger  
Graves (GA)  
Graves (LA)  
Graves (MO)  
Green (TN)  
Green (TX)  
Grothman  
Guest  
Guthrie  
Haaland  
Hagedorn  
Harder (CA)  
Harris  
Hartzler  
Hastings  
Heck  
Hern, Kevin  
Herrera Beutler  
Hice (GA)  
Higgins (LA)  
Higgins (NY)  
Hill (AR)  
Hill (CA)  
Himes  
Holding  
Hollingsworth  
Horn, Kendra S.  
Horsford  
Houlahan  
Hoyer  
Hudson  
Huffman  
Huizenga  
Hunter  
Hurd (TX)  
Jackson Lee  
Jayapal  
Jeffries  
Johnson (GA)  
Johnson (OH)  
Johnson (SD)  
Johnson (TX)  
Jordan  
Joyce (OH)  
Joyce (PA)  
Kaptur  
Katko  
Keating  
Kelly (IL)

Peters  
Peterson  
Phillips  
Pingree  
Porter  
Posey  
Pressley  
Quigley  
Raskin  
Ratcliffe  
Reed  
Reschenthaler  
Rice (NY)  
Rice (SC)  
Richmond  
Riggleman  
Roby  
Rodgers (WA)  
Roe, David P.  
Rogers (AL)  
Rogers (KY)  
Rooney (FL)  
Rose (NY)  
Rose, John W.  
Rouda  
Rouzer  
Roybal-Allard  
Ruiz  
Ruppersberger  
Rutherford  
Sarbanes  
Scalise  
Scanlon  
Schakowsky  
Schiff  
Schneider  
Schrader  
Schrier  
Schweikert  
Scott (VA)

Scott, Austin  
Scott, David  
Sensenbrenner  
Serrano  
Sewell (AL)  
Shalala  
Sherman  
Sherrill  
Shimkus  
Simpson  
Sires  
Slotkin  
Smith (MO)  
Smith (NE)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (WA)  
Smucker  
Soto  
Spanberger  
Spano  
Speier  
Stanton  
Stauber

Torres (CA)  
Torres Small  
(NM)  
Trahan  
Trone  
Turner  
Underwood  
Van Drew  
Vargas  
Veasey  
Vela  
Velázquez  
Visclosky  
Wagner  
Walberg  
Walden  
Walorski  
Waltz  
Waters  
Watkins  
Watson Coleman  
Weber (TX)  
Webster (FL)  
Welch  
Wenstrup  
Westerman  
Wexton  
Wild  
Williams  
Wilson (FL)  
Wilson (SC)  
Wittman  
Womack  
Woodall  
Wright  
Yarmuth  
Yoho  
Young  
Zeldin

## NAYS—7

Amash  
Burgess  
Cline

Gosar  
Griffith  
Massie

Roy

## NOT VOTING—20

Abraham  
Engel  
Flores  
Gabbard  
Gallo  
Grijalva  
Hayes

Johnson (LA)  
Lee (NV)  
Meeks  
Moore  
Pocan  
Price (NC)  
Rush

Ryan  
Sánchez  
Swalwell (CA)  
Tlaib  
Upton  
Wasserman  
Schultz

□ 1906

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 119 and “nay” on rollcall No. 120.

# REQUEST TO CONSIDER H.R. 962, BORN-ALIVE ABORTION SURVIVORS PROTECTION ACT

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 962, the Born-Alive Abortion Survivor Protection Act, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under guidelines consistently issued by successive Speakers, and recorded in section 956 of the House Rules and Manual, the Chair is constrained not to entertain the request unless it has been cleared by the bipartisan floor and committee leadership.

## PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

Mr. BOST. Parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, is it not true that under the Born-Alive Abortion Protection Act that infant survivors of abortion would receive lifesaving medical care?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has not stated a proper parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. BOST. Parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, does an infant survivor of an abortion not deserve the same care as other living human beings?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has not stated a proper parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. BOST. One more parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. BOST. Will the Chair entertain a unanimous consent request to enter into the RECORD comments from Virginia Governor Ralph Northam about infanticide?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will not provide an advisory opinion.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, if this unanimous consent request cannot be entertained on H.R. 962, I urge the Speaker and the majority leader to immediately schedule the Born-Alive bill so we can stand up and protect the sanctity of human life.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has not been recognized for debate.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE HONORABLE RALPH HALL

(Ms. JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like all members of the Texas delegation to join me.

Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize and pay tribute to the life and legacy of former Congressman, fellow Texan, and a dear friend, Ralph Hall.

Congressman Hall served the people of the great State of Texas for nearly a half century: 10 years as a Texas State Senator from the Ninth District, and 34 years as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Texas' Fourth District. He genuinely enjoyed public service, and he was good at it as well.

Known throughout the Halls of Congress as an effective legislator, Congressman Hall made great legislative strides in the science field and was a top advocate for the country's space program during his time as both chairman and ranking member of the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

Congressman Hall was the first to reach out and offer his assistance when I was first elected to the House of Representatives. He helped me learn the ins and outs of Washington. No matter the party affiliation or political leaning, Congressman Hall was a man who could always be counted on and one who enjoyed a good joke.

Congressman Hall was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Ellen Murphy Hall; sister, Rosemary Hall Scott; and brother, Hugh Hall. He is survived by his three sons—Hamp, Brett, and Blakeley Hall—and many wonderful grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire Texas congressional delegation, I would like to pay respects to Congressman Hall for a life dedicated to his family, his country, and his constituents. The Texas community will miss him dearly, and we will be presenting Congressman Hall's family with a flag that was flown over the Capitol today.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE HONORABLE RALPH HALL

(Mr. RATCLIFFE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. RATCLIFFE. Mr. Speaker, at age 19, Ralph Hall jumped at the chance to join the Navy, to fly Hellcat fighters during World War II in defense of this Nation. Seventy years later, at the age of 89, he jumped again out of an airplane to honor America's veterans on Memorial Day.

At age 11, Ralph Hall was working at the Rockwall, Texas, drugstore when he served two Coca-Colas, two packs of Old Gold cigarettes, and a stack of newspapers to two customers known simply to the rest of the world as Bonnie and Clyde. Eighty years later, at the age of 91, Ralph was still working and serving the folks in Rockwall, in north Texas, as the oldest Member ever to cast a vote in the history of the House of Representatives.

From beginning to end, Ralph Hall lived one of the most extraordinary and remarkable lives of anyone ever to serve in Congress.

In his 34 years in this Chamber, Ralph spent some of his time sitting over here as a Blue Dog Democrat. For some of his time he spent it sitting over there as a conservative Republican. Ralph liked to joke that was because "the Republicans never much wanted me, and the Democrats never much liked me." Neither of those was true, but it was that self-deprecating humor that made Ralph Hall beloved to everyone who knew him.

In the Science, Space, and Technology Committee room, Ralph Hall's picture hangs alongside other past chairmen. But Ralph was the only chairman to have Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, Gene Cernan, and every then-living Apollo-era astronaut come to his home to celebrate one of his birthdays. When asked why, Neil Armstrong, the

first man on the Moon, who famously took a giant leap for mankind, said it was because Ralph Hall was a giant to our space program. Ralph Hall, he said, was a giant among men.

Mr. Speaker, to those on the floor who knew Ralph Hall, thank you for allowing me to remember him for the Representative that he truly was. And for those of you who did not have the privilege of serving with Ralph Hall, thank you for letting me remember the man who was the kind of Representative that we should all hope to be.

When Ralph Hall passed away last Thursday at the age of 95, he left this Earth, went right past the Moon—and our loss became Heaven's gain.

Godspeed, Ralph Hall.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask all Members to rise and observe a moment of silence to honor the extraordinary life of Congressman Ralph Hall.

□ 1915

#### TRANSPARENCY IS CRITICAL

(Mr. GOTTHEIMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I first want to thank Chairwoman WATERS and Congressman LUCAS for working together on the Federal Reserve Supervision Testimony Clarification Act, which the House passed earlier today.

Transparency is critical, and my bipartisan bill requires that Congress receives regular testimony regarding supervisory matters at the Federal Reserve Board. Congress has a clear responsibility to ensure that the Federal Reserve is operating in the best interests of the American taxpayer, and this bill will do just that.

New Jerseyans deserve to know how the Fed is regulating our financial institutions, and Congress needs to know how it can cut red tape and grow our economy. But we can't do that if the Fed doesn't come to testify on its supervisory work.

My bill will help boost government transparency and accountability for the benefit of north Jersey and the rest of the country.

#### HONORING BRYSON WATKINS

(Mr. BURCHETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Bryson Watkins, a 13-year-old from Lenoir City in the Second Congressional District of Tennessee, for his selflessness and quick thinking.

On February 13, Bryson saved another young man's life after receiving a message through social media. Bryson sprinted to inform a sheriff's deputy, and together, they initiated a response by law enforcement.

In the aftermath of the event, Loudon County Sheriff Tim Guider

honored Bryson with the Sheriff's Citizen Lifesaving Award.

On behalf of the Second District, I extend my appreciation for Bryson's actions. We should recognize Bryson for his integrity, compassion, and maturity. Not many 13-year-olds, Mr. Speaker, have the wherewithal to encounter a crisis situation and act so responsibly. He acted quickly and appropriately.

Bryson's leadership in this situation speaks volumes of the values that his parents had instilled in him and the community in which he was raised.

His ability to work with local law enforcement is also a tribute to the dedication of the Loudon County Sheriff's Department, Mr. Speaker, and I thank them all for their commitment to the community.

#### HONORING BARD HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE PROGRAM

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Bard High School Early College science faculty for their work to advance science, technology, engineering, and math programs for their students.

Earlier this year, one of their teachers, Maria Agapito, was only 1 of 35 science teachers in the country who was selected by the Society for Science and the Public to receive a \$1,000 grant.

Ms. Agapito and other science teachers will be using this grant to create a multiyear science program for student research. They will be able to use the funds to help buy equipment and materials, and for student projects.

Science teachers at Bard and public schools across the country are doing great things to help their students prepare for an increasingly technological future.

I am proud to represent such bright students and passionate educators.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all of America's teachers in this country and wish them continued success.

#### RATIFY NEWLY NEGOTIATED USMCA

(Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, since it is National Agriculture Week, I thought I would highlight how important market access is to South Dakota.

Now, the numbers don't lie. South Dakota is our Nation's 10th largest ag exporting State. In fact, we send out \$4 billion of ag products every single year.

NAFTA deserves a lot of credit for that. In fact, our Nation at large exports more than \$38 billion every year to Canada and Mexico.

We need to keep that momentum going, which is why this body needs to

ratify the newly negotiated United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement.

USMCA is clearly better than NAFTA was. Let's be clear: That doesn't mean that it is perfect, but it does mean that it is clearly better for our country.

President Trump and his administration have made a number of much-needed improvements to that trading agreement. Let's send a clear message that the United States and South Dakota are open for business.

Mr. Speaker, let's get to work.

#### SUPPORTING NATIONAL WOMEN VETERANS RECOGNITION WEEK

(Mr. LAWSON of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAWSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express support for a resolution I filed to honor the heroic women who have dedicated themselves to serving our country with devotion and distinction by designating March 10 through March 16 as National Women Veterans Recognition Week. This observance would celebrate the achievement of our female veterans and raise awareness to the unique challenges they face.

Women are now the fastest growing segment of the veteran community. Approximately 2 million women in the United States are veterans.

Florida hosts the Nation's largest segment of population of women veterans, especially in Duval County, in my district, which has the largest number of female veterans in the State.

I want to take this time to recognize one of my distinguished staffers, Sherry Barfield, who was recently recognized as one of the Northeast Florida Women Veterans Center's 2019 Women Who Rock.

#### HONORING CARLTON GILL

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Mr. Carlton Gill, who passed away on February 18 at the age of 78.

His friends remember Mr. Gill as a man of many talents and an institution in his hometown of Richmond Hill. Both of these statements help to sum up Mr. Gill but only serve to remind us of a portion of his character.

A formidable figure who played basketball at both Georgia Southern University and the University of Georgia, his many talents included working as a procurement forester at S.A. Allen for nearly 40 years, serving as a Bryan County commissioner for five terms, worshipping at Compassion Christian Church as a deacon, and much more.

For his work in guiding Richmond Hill through periods of significant growth, a nearby section of I-95 is named in his honor.

Others, though, will remember his imposing stature and the respect he commanded when entering the room. But he never wavered in his ability to be fair and honest, and to treat everyone with that same level of respect. A great leader of his community, Mr. Gill will be missed.

His family and friends are in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

#### VISION OF NATION CRAFTED IN BUDGET

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, every year, the vision of this Nation is crafted in the budget that is offered either by the President or the United States Congress.

As a member of the Budget Committee, I am delighted that our theme will be "For the People." But today, sadly, I think it is important to note that the President offered a budget that disregarded the American people: \$2.7 trillion in spending cuts coming from the very bases that make America the greatest country in the world; 12 percent cutting in education, your children's education; 12 percent cutting healthcare from the Department of Health and Human Services; 11 percent cutting from Interior, your parks and museums and monuments; 23 percent cutting from diplomacy, from the State Department and international health; 32 percent from the Environmental Protection Agency, the quality of water and air; and 22 percent to decrease mobility in this Nation, all these dollars coming from what we call domestic spending, with increased spending in other areas where individuals are not protected.

We will protect the people. The For the People budget will be designed by Democrats.

#### RECOGNIZING MAJOR GENERAL MICHAEL A. CALHOUN

(Mr. RUTHERFORD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments and the retirement of Major General Michael A. Calhoun, who has faithfully served America for over 40 years in numerous capacities, but most recently as Florida's Adjutant General for the last 4 years.

General Calhoun began his service as a private in 1977, and then he secured his commission in the Medical Service Corps. Throughout his distinguished career, he has served at every level of command in the State and was deployed overseas in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, earning the respect and confidence of all under his command.

During his time as Adjutant General, he responded to five named storms that

impacted the State of Florida, one of which resulted in the largest mobilization of Florida guardsmen in the State's history.

It was during that time that I had the privilege of personally working extensively with General Calhoun, and I can personally attest to his commitment to excellence and to the people of the State of Florida.

Despite the rapid pace of operations over the past 4 years, General Calhoun never lost sight of his mission.

Mr. Speaker, I thank him for his selfless leadership and service, and I wish him and his wife, Sophia, the best in their retirement. A grateful State and Nation say thank you.

□ 1930

#### JUDICIARY COMMITTEE WORK

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to serve on the Judiciary Committee in the House and be the chairman of the Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Subcommittee.

I want to report to the American people that we passed out H.R. 1 that helps clean up corruption in our government, makes our government more transparent, makes voting easier and open to more people, and does other improvements the American people want.

We also passed out H.R. 8, the first gun reform bill in over 20 years that says you have to have background checks on all sales.

This week, we will be marking up the Violence Against Women Act. Hopefully, we will have bipartisan support for that.

We will also have a hearing on renewing the Voting Rights Act that never should have been discarded by the Supreme Court. We will be having hearings to get the Voting Rights Act back on the law books in the United States.

And our subcommittee had a hearing last week on the President's powers on emergency actions. We have bipartisan agreement that we need to reform that bill and will work together in a bipartisan fashion.

#### HONORING PRIVATE FIRST-CLASS ELIZABETH JOHNSON

(Ms. FOXX of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, during Women's History Month, we honor American women whose exemplary lives have shaped the country we love.

In 1945, Private First-Class Elizabeth Johnson of Elkin, North Carolina, answered the call to serve our country, becoming one of 855 women to form the 6888th battalion, the first and only all-female and all-Black battalion in World War II.

They were given the task of delivering, in 1 year, a backlog of 1 year's

worth of servicemembers' mail waiting to be delivered. But with their strong dedication, in just 6 months, all letters were delivered to servicemembers waiting to hear from loved ones.

After a tour of duty in England and France, Ms. Johnson became the first woman to attend Winston-Salem State University on the GI Bill and dedicated over 30 years to teaching in Virginia and North Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, I commend and thank Ms. Johnson for her legacy of lifelong service to fellow Americans.

#### NATIONAL AGRICULTURE WEEK

(Mr. HAGEDORN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAGEDORN. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize National Agriculture Week.

I grew up on a grain and livestock farm just outside of Truman, Minnesota, and have a deep appreciation for agriculture and all it does for our rural communities. Our ag-based economy is so critically important to our Nation and, of course, the State of Minnesota and southern Minnesota, which is our First District.

The people in southern Minnesota really appreciate our ag producers, our ag processors, our ag equipment dealers, and all the rest. I can tell you that in Minnesota's First District, one of the top crop and livestock districts in all the country, we actually were number two for hogs in the entire Nation.

Our First District is home to nearly 20,000 farmers. Considering that each farm produces enough food to feed about 165 people, the reach of our farmers goes throughout the United States and all around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to commemorating and talking about the value of agriculture and our farmers during this week and throughout this Congress.

#### RECOGNIZING PATRICIA SINCAVAGE

(Mr. SMUCKER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, Friday was International Women's Day and, today, I rise to recognize the service of a remarkable woman in my district: Ms. Patricia Sincavage of Lititz, Pennsylvania.

Ms. Sincavage has served as an occupational therapist at the Lebanon Veterans Affairs Medical Center since 1978. She joined the VA after graduating from Elizabethtown College. The Lebanon VA serves about 80 percent of the veterans who reside in my district.

She has spent the entirety of her professional career giving back to our veterans. Occupational therapy can assist veterans in continuing to take care of their health needs while still doing the

activities they enjoy simply by adapting or doing things differently.

Ms. Sincavage is retiring from the VA after 43 years of service. She has four children, 11 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. She has served our Nation's veterans well, and it is an honor to recognize her today.

#### VENEZUELA

(Mr. GAETZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, as I deliver these remarks, the people of Venezuela are without food, water, medicine, and now even electricity.

The organizing principle of American policy seems to be the need to drive Maduro from power. What if Maduro is not really in power right now? What if the people who are really calling the shots in Venezuela are a group of transnational criminal organizations that merely maintain Maduro as a figurehead? And what if their entire purpose is to draw the United States into an ill-advised war to create a massive migration of people throughout Latin America, eroding borders, jeopardizing nation-states, and ultimately leading to a permissive environment for more illicit activity to occur?

These are important questions we have to ask. My constituents have to go to Central and South America and fight these wars. And certainly, as a Congress, we need to be very critical in our thinking to not get our Nation in another ill-advised war.

#### MOURNING THE TRAGIC LOSS OF LIFE OF ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES CRASH

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness I rise today to mourn the tragic loss of life on Sunday morning as an Ethiopian Airlines jet carrying 157 people crashed only 6 minutes after takeoff. On board that flight were people from 35 different countries, including 8 U.S. citizens, with no survivors.

This tragedy hits close to home for those of us from northern California. Two of the eight Americans were from my own district in Shasta County.

Melvin and Bennett Riffel, two brothers from Redding, California, were embarking upon an adventure that had already taken them through Australia and Mogadishu before they arrived in Ethiopia. It has been said that this was their last trip together before Melvin was set to become a father, together with his wife Brittney, who had only recently returned home.

Our friends and neighbors in northern California share in the sadness and grief that we all feel for their families, and for all of the families who lost loved ones that day on that plane.

As we await more information on exactly what went wrong, please join me in praying for Melvin and Bennett, their families, and all the others who boarded that fateful flight that day.

#### 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF WEST POINT ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to be joined by my colleagues who graduated from West Point, our alma mater, and our colleague, who represents the West Point community and the area.

Why are we talking about the academy today? Well, we are close to what we call our Founders Day, which is March 17, but this is also a special year. It is the 150th anniversary of the Association of Graduates, which keeps the alumni informed and connected with our alma mater.

The 150th anniversary will be May 22, 2019, so we thought we would come down to the floor to talk about the experience and the importance of the military academies—of course, West Point being the oldest and the best—to our Nation and its security.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY), from Hudson Valley, who represents West Point and the surrounding communities.

Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the West Point Association of Graduates.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent the cadets, faculty, Active Duty soldiers, and the many alumni of the United States military academy at West Point in New York's Hudson Valley. In fact, I live right across the river, and I hear the cannon every morning and every night. It is a wonderful way to wake up and go to bed.

Just take a few steps on the grounds at West Point and it will be clear to you that West Point is much more than a school. It is a community of devotion made up of the best and brightest of our Nation's past, our Nation's present, and our Nation's future.

Think of the legends and heroes who have graduated from West Point. Such a pantheon clearly deserves more than a run-of-the-mill alumni association. Accordingly, the West Point Association of Graduates has fulfilled that need. It goes above and beyond, and it deserves the recognition we are giving it tonight.

I want to thank my friend, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS), a member of the association himself, for leading this Special Order to honor the organization for the services and fellowship opportunities it provides to graduates of all ages.

Our country's premier military academy has produced generations of leaders in all fields, including 2 U.S. Presidents, 18 astronauts, 19 Rhodes scholars, 76 Medal of Honor winners, and countless numbers of the Fortune 500 CEO's list, Cabinet secretaries, Governors, Senators, and, for those who didn't do very well, Members of Congress.

These men and women are connected by "The Long Grey Line," the affectionate reference to the unique ties that bind all graduates. They are linked by their commitment to living and, at times, even dying in service of the motto "Duty, Honor, Country."

But they are also connected through the tireless work of an exemplary alumni association. For 150 years, the West Point Association of Graduates has fostered these connections by allowing generations of graduates to grip hands with one another.

In some ways, the association is like other alumni associations, but like all things West Point, it is much more. The association provides mentorship and fellowship for younger alums, but often these alums are also returning veterans who need a hand when they come back.

It supports local chapters across the country and around the world. But for a group as far-flung as West Point grads, these connections give graduates a sense of community when they are far from home.

It also helps graduates who have been hurt by hurricanes, tornadoes, fires, and other natural disasters.

And it even offers a professional memorial services coordinator to help grieving families navigate the funeral process at West Point when that difficult time arrives.

These are the kind of people who make up The Long Grey Line in the West Point Association of Graduates. They are fiercely committed to our country and to each other.

During times of division, West Point graduates still rally around their shared values and experiences to build bridges and remind all of us what it is to be an American.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the West Point Association of Graduates for 150 years of connecting distinguished alumni and providing a helping hand to folks in need. I thank them for their service, and here is to another 150 years.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for doing that great summation, because I brought my colleagues down here and they are probably going to talk a little bit more about the micro aspects of classes, friends, and experiences over the years. But I do appreciate the gentleman's work for and support of West Point and the community. And I know he will always be a good steward of the campus, the cadets, the staff, and the faculty, so I thank him for coming down.

Mr. Speaker, usually, we manage things here in the House by seniority

based upon, again, elected Congress. But at West Point, it is a very competitive institution, and our seniority is based upon the graduation class. So I am going to turn things upside down here on the floor and go by seniority, which means one of our newly elected Members of Congress will get a chance to speak first.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN).

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, in 1781, General George Washington called the fortifications at West Point the most important post in America. Holding West Point meant preventing the British from dividing the Nation along the Hudson River Valley.

Following the war, President Washington made numerous efforts to create a military academy. His actual first effort was within a year of becoming the Commander in Chief. However, it fell to Thomas Jefferson to get it done and, in 1802, the United States Military Academy at West Point was founded as the Nation's school to teach the art and science of warfare.

Since its inception, West Point graduates have served to preserve our Nation's freedom in battle. From the Mexican wars to the war on terror, West Point graduates have sacrificed their lives and their youth to win our Nation's wars.

Off the battlefield, West Point graduates have served at the very highest levels of the U.S. military as legislators, Cabinet secretaries, Governors, Presidents, and CEOs leading the development of our Nation's infrastructure and the establishment of the world's greatest economy.

□ 1945

For young people who choose West Point over a traditional education, it is truly a different path.

From the moment you start in Beast Barracks, a cadet lives by the code of conduct of the military officer, recognizing that their life becomes second to the safety of Americans.

Almost 100 West Point graduates have given their lives in this most recent war. It is that commitment to the Nation made at such a young age that makes the place so special.

What sets West Point as an institution apart is just about everything that happens there: the grueling academics; the compulsory participation in sports; the military drill; the military training; and perhaps most noteworthy, the leadership and character development. West Point even uses our math classes to teach cadets how to present themselves and to hone their military bearing.

But for me, what took my experience at West Point to the next level were the men and women who made up my class, the class of 1986.

Our motto is "Courage Never Quits, '86."

We came to West Point from all over the country, men and women from every State, nearly every religion,

every ethnic origin; and we came together as one team fighting to get through the Academy's rigorous education. Almost one-third who started our class left before graduating.

Over the years, we celebrated together, served in the Army together. Many left the military to serve elsewhere in government and business. But each of us has tried to live by that motto, "Courage Never Quits," and boy, have we.

Our class has produced 18 general officers: four 3-star generals; we have no 4-stars yet because we haven't been out of the Academy long enough; in addition, we have nine 2-stars and six 1-star generals.

Our class produced a Secretary of State, a Secretary of the Army. Two of us have served in Congress, one of whom went on to be the Director of the CIA and, of course, Secretary of State.

We have had at least two State legislators. Three judges come from our ranks, as well as at least four deans and chancellors of universities.

We have served at senior levels throughout the government, from the Department of State to the FBI, to the leadership of the Defense Logistics Agency, to consultants to Presidents of the United States.

Twenty-two-plus members of my class are presidents and CEOs of major corporations, from 7-Eleven to Mercedes-Benz USA.

And, yes, we, too, have had those in our ranks make the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. Be thou at peace.

More than anything, more than just the amazing location on the Hudson River, more than the unparalleled history of the place, more than the grueling academics, more than its unbelievable place in our Nation's great story, what pushes me to serve is the knowledge of what my peers have accomplished. Their hard work reminds me to never stop reading, learning, growing, and serving. They are my motivation, and they are why I will never quit.

Rangers Lead The Way.

Night Stalkers Don't Quit.

Courage Never Quits, '86.

Go Army. Beat Navy.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, and I appreciate his service in uniform and, of course, here on the floor. We are happy to have him here.

Next, I yield to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE), almost my neighbor on the North American continent.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, my motto as the class of '87: Our Country We Strengthen, '87.

It is great to be here, and I want to start with a story.

After I went through the Academy, graduated from West Point, spent time in the 101st Airborne Division, I decided to do something different with my life and went into business. I went to business school. I was in New England in business school.

One time, I was driving back from a visit to Franklin Roosevelt's home on the Hudson River and was at a grocery store—Stew Leonard's, some people know from Danbury, Connecticut. I was standing outside with a kid, and a guy walks by, and he says: Well, Kentucky plates. What are you doing here in Connecticut?

I said: Well, I am up here in graduate school, and we just went to Franklin Roosevelt's home. I just love the Hudson River. The Hudson Valley is just stunningly beautiful.

The guy looked at me. He didn't know my background, didn't know who I was. So he said: Well, if you love the Hudson River, let me suggest you ought to spend a weekend at West Point. Let me suggest you go on Saturday, on a football Saturday, because you are not going to believe this, but they actually go to class on Saturday.

I said: Are you kidding me? I mean, people actually go to a school that goes to class on Saturday?

And he said: Yeah. And then they have a parade, and all the cadets are standing—and I didn't have the heart to tell them, tell him we were telling jokes to each other, and said—look pristine, you know, from 100 yards away.

But he went through the day at West Point, and he walked through it. And he said a picnic and tailgating and football, and all the great stuff and the fun times you have here. But you do have good times even though you have very difficult times.

And when he finally finished, I didn't have the heart to tell him the truth and tell him the story. So as soon as he finished, I just looked at him and said: I have always heard about West Point, and I have always heard this: "It is a great place to visit, but you wouldn't want to live there."

And the reason that you wouldn't want to live there is because it is tough. It is hard. It is not something you can do just simply. It is something you sacrifice for and you move towards.

One of my great thrills is you get to nominate people who attend our academies—all of our academies—and to call them and tell them when they have received an appointment.

I just talked to a young man this week, he is going to West Point, and a couple, unfortunately, to the Navy—but a couple at West Point and a couple at the Air Force Academy. They are deciding to do something big and different with their lives than their classmates.

But I want to talk about, just real briefly, you do run across some great people.

I always say the reason that H. R. McMaster was probably, I think, the greatest soldier of our generation is his very first challenge was teaching me how to march correctly. He was my squad leader at Beast Barracks, and I was a challenge to him, I am sure, so his first leadership challenge.

We heard my previous speaker talk about his classmates, Mark Esper, who was in my company and now Secretary of the Army; got to serve on Energy and Commerce with Mike Pompeo, now Secretary of State.

My class actually entered West Point in 1983, so I got my appointment in February of '83. In March of '83, Ronald Reagan gave his speech in Orlando, Florida, about the evil empire, and then during my time in the 101st, the Berlin Wall came down. So I literally served from the evil empire to the fall of the Berlin Wall.

A lot of my classmates—me being one of them, and this shows what a great prognosticator I am—and all of us thought the Army was going to be boring for the next 20 years. And, man, my prayers that that was absolutely—would have come true, but it wasn't.

So my commemoration today is a lot of my classmates did leave the Army in the early nineties. Those who spent time in a career—whether 20 years, 30 years, some still serving—they really have sacrificed for this country more than I could ever imagine.

My one experience with it as a Member of Congress—not as a combat soldier, but a Member of Congress—I took my first trip into a combat zone to Iraq. I remember sitting in the headquarters waiting for General Barbero to come give us a briefing, and an '06 colonel comes walking in. Some of us may know because he did congressional affairs after this.

It was Joe Simonelli, who was a big, blustery, great guy who served, just kind of a leader of our class. And he comes walking in, and it just struck me that he has been doing this for the last—then it would have been the last almost 20 years, spending half of his life going overseas to serve our country. I was just there for a day and a half and was ready to get home, and he was there for a year. It just struck me.

So my hat is off to my classmates—and not to just people who graduated from West Point, but every man and woman who has the courage and the conviction and the strength and everything about them to put on our uniform. And every single one of them, every single person serving in our uniform volunteered to do so. It is just amazing that we have young men and women like that.

So my hat is off for my classmates because we are talking about our time at West Point, those who served 20 and 30 years, who have made a difference for this country and have sacrificed like no other has over the course of time.

We have, certainly, people in more combat-type style conflicts, but I would dare say, in the history of our country, a group of people who graduated the time that we have have not spent more time in active combat back and forth.

Mr. Speaker, my hat is off to them. They are my brothers and sisters. I love them dearly, and I appreciate their service.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for his comments.

I think what Congressman GUTHRIE has said, article II of the Association of Graduates Constitution, states the object of this association shall be to cherish the memories of our alma mater and to promote the social intercourse and fraternal fellowship of its graduates, and I think we are seeing that tonight.

You see some snickering and some guffawing, and I think we all get transported back in time. In fact, in preparing for this, I did like Congressman GREEN and got a list of my classmates and then started working on notes on Friday night and Saturday. I am telling you, I had nightmares on Saturday night; I had nightmares on Sunday because that experience was brought back to life for me, which I cherished.

I am now happy to yield to the gentleman from Ohio, Congressman DAVIDSON.

Before I turn it all over to him, one of the benefits that the academies do, and West Point does, is just doesn't get what they consider the brightest and the best in our secondary education system, but they make sure that they reach into our active military forces and find those young men and women who are showing to their chain of command exceptional opportunity with a chance to promote and become an officer. Congressman DAVIDSON is one of those, and that is why I yield to him, the class of '95.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank this body for the opportunity to recognize our alma mater and our Association of Graduates at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

As Mr. SHIMKUS was highlighting, I didn't come the easy way. As a friend of mine likes to say, sometimes God will bring you the easiest way you will go.

For me, my journey to West Point started in my high school guidance counselor's classroom in September of senior year. Most people realize that is kind of a late start for the path that it takes to go to one of our Nation's service academies.

And then she asked me what I wanted to do, and I said: Well, I want to be an Army ranger.

She said: Well, you know, you are pretty smart. You should go to college. You should consider college, at least.

I said: Well, you know, I thought about going to West Point. Then I could be in the Army and go to college.

She looked at me like she felt sorry for me. She said: Well, baby, that is not going to happen.

That wasn't mean; it was realistic. I had not done the work that it would take to get there.

She walked me through who normally gets in: The salutatorians, the valedictorians, the people with the high GPAs while being captain of sports, Eagle Scouts, and what not. I

recognized some of my classmates who had been on that path, and I recognized that that is not the path that I had been on. No one in my family on my dad's side had gone to college.

So she told me: You should work on some other plans.

So I did them. I enlisted in the Army. And when I got to the Army, thankfully, some of BRETT GUTHRIE's classmates, 1987 graduates Larry Bradley and Terry Finley, were platoon leaders.

Larry Bradley ended up being my platoon leader for a composite platoon that got training by the 10th Special Forces Group down in Bad Tolz, Germany. And it was there, during that platoon, that I learned that the Berlin Wall had come down, that it wasn't part of the training, it wasn't just a jazzy intro to a speech.

Some noncommissioned officers stepped up and said: Write this day down. It is going to be one of the most famous days in history, 9 November 1989.

We thought: Bold intro.

But from that, I had a chance to do something unbelievable that was the culmination not just of graduates of the United States Military Academy, but the culmination of people who had fought to win that war. So many of them West Point graduates, like Eisenhower, like Bradley, like Patton, who helped liberate a people in that continent.

But I got to see the culmination of that as the wall came down not because Mr. Gorbachev tore it down or Mr. Reagan tore it down, but because the East German people found out what was on the other side of it, and they tore their own wall down. And they found out that the fruits of our ideology had produced shockingly different results than what their ideology had produced.

□ 2000

It is shocking today to think that we might relive some of those bad choices that led to poverty and scarcity on the other side of the wall while our ideas led to abundance and flourishing, not perfectly, but far superior.

From there, I went to the prep school, and I met classmates like Ranger Bill Lynn. His first unit deployment led him to jump into Panama, and he had a combat jump there. I met classmates at the prep school who didn't make it to West Point. Indeed, one of my 1995 classmates is currently the commandant of the United States Military Academy Preparatory School.

It is a great path, but I also met people who had not been in the Army. I met people who had come there to increase the diversity objectives of the Military Academy, who needed a little more strength on their academics or maybe who needed to balance the academics with the athletics that they were going to be able to participate in. That was about half the class.

I learned about a special club at West Point shortly after I came called the

Two-Percent Club, and I met my wife. The Two-Percent Club, for those who don't know, are those who start with a girlfriend and graduate with the same girlfriend and end up marrying that girl. I am thankful today that I am married to my Lisa. People would talk about Lisa this, and Lisa that, but I would always refer to my Lisa, the girl who chose to marry me.

We experienced cadet life in a different way. We have all these memories of things like the cadet in the red sash stepping up to the line, but not on the line or over the line. We remember things like Beast Barracks in Buckner, Boodlers runs, spinning the spurs. We remember the honor code and the character that was so prominently featured there, that, "A cadet will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor tolerate those who do."

We remember how hard it was to live with the consequences for people who made those bad decisions, who you knew to be good people, who came to be separated because it was taken very seriously there.

We saw in the cadet parades that we talked about on the parade fields The Long Gray Line for the ceremonies where they would lay a wreath for Founders Day at the statue of Colonel Sylvanus Thayer. You would see men and women in uniform, but you would see senior citizens at the front of the line.

The oldest graduate would lay the wreath—often in a wheelchair, feebly mustering every ounce of strength necessary sometimes to move from that chair to lay that wreath with pride at the statue in front of the sup's house.

We remember the million-dollar view at Trophy Point, and we remember the quarter-million-dollar education one nickel at a time as we studied.

We remember friends and classmates who helped us through the hard times. We remember the knowledge like duty, honor, country, or Schofield's Definition of Discipline.

We remember the seriousness with which nearly every one of us took the opportunity to be prepared, should the case arise that we would lead our Nation's young men and women in combat, that we would be ready to face the challenge. Many of my classmates did that.

I served 5 years in great units, the Old Guard, the 101st Airborne Division, and the 75th Ranger Regiment. I left Active Duty, which shocked many of my classmates, and I found a great sense of purpose, that to give a lifetime of service to the Nation didn't always mean in uniform. But you still look in awe at the sacrifice that so many have made who continued on in Active Duty, especially those who gave the last full measure to keep our Nation free and to bring honor to The Long Gray Line.

Today, as I look at young men and women and have the privilege of calling them and congratulating them on all of the work that it takes to do it—generally, the right way—the advanced

knowledge and the preparation—the more common way—the disciplined path that started earlier in life, I am encouraged because there are so many talented young men and women who still want to put on our Nation's uniform to make sure that our Nation is made and kept free with an all-volunteer force committed to serve our country.

I look at The Long Gray Line today, a line that is a very tight-knit alumni organization where friends could be distant for years, even decades, and, in a moment, connect as if you just finished playing spades with one another after hours, ditching the late-lights penalties.

I look forward to those times. I cherish those memories. And I am so thankful to the West Point Association of Graduates, which has set a great example of how to bond classmates together to serve the cause and interest of our great alma mater so that this Long Gray Line may continue to flourish always.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for joining us tonight. He makes me think of a lot of things.

I want to make sure that we don't forget the staff and faculty, the Department of Army civilians, and the spouses and the families who make up the whole West Point experience.

A lot of times, staff and faculty will adopt a cadet to be their family while they are away. I am from Illinois, and New York was a pretty long distance. I was fortunate to be, in essence, adopted by Colonel Woodard and Mary Ellen Woodard. They were my pseudo family there, and, boy, did I need it. That was kind of joked about.

I also remember going and visiting many times instructors after hours on a program we called additional instruction. I thought I was smart in high school. I found out in college-level engineering school, I wasn't as smart as I thought I was. I needed a lot of assistance to get through the academic program there, so I appreciated it.

Many of those staff and faculty teachers were West Point graduates, so they not only had the book learning, but they knew the experience we were all going through.

I brought down my yearbook and paged through it. General Omar Bradley attended our graduation, which shows you the length, depth, and width of The Long Gray Line. It was a special time to be able to see that connection.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. WATKINS), our most junior graduate—maybe we would call him a plebe in our lexicon—but a freshman Member of Congress.

Mr. WATKINS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Duty, honor, country. The United States possesses the greatest military in the history of mankind, and it isn't even close. How is that possible since, through the ages, warfare changes, our enemies change, the geography changes, the ideology that we are up against changes.

I would contest that the reason we consistently win our Nation's wars is because our greatest attribute never does change. Those are the values that we hold dear. It is the leadership principles that every graduate of the United States Military Academy learns.

How on Earth could that be encapsulated? The best I could hope for is to call on General MacArthur, who in 1962, to the United States Corps of Cadets, said: "Duty, honor, country: Those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you ought to be, what you can be, what you will be. They are your rallying point to build courage when courage seems to fail, to regain faith when there seems to be little cause for faith, to create hope when hope becomes forlorn."

The United States Military Academy has a sacred place in my heart, to the class of 1999, with duty in mind. I want to thank God for West Point. I want to thank The Long Gray Line. And God bless you USMA, my rockbound highland home.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for joining us tonight.

We have people who watch and participate in the Army-Navy games. There is now a new kind of challenge for either the midshipmen or the Corps of Cadets, and it is a fight to see who sings second. If you watch the Army-Navy game, at the end, after a tremendous battle on the field of friendly strife, both sides will join together on each side, and they will listen as the alma maters are sung. The goal is to be the one who gets to sing second, because that means that you have won the football game.

I would like to read the alma mater of West Point.

Hail, Alma Mater dear,  
To us be ever near.  
Help us thy motto bear  
Through all the years.  
Let Duty be well performed.  
Honor be e'er untarned  
Country be ever armed.  
West Point, by thee.  
Guide us, thine own, aright  
Teach us by day, by night,  
To keep thine honor bright,  
For thee to fight.  
When we depart from thee,  
Serving on land or sea,  
May we stand loyal be,  
West Point, to thee  
And when our work is done,  
Our course on earth is run,  
May it be said, "Well done"  
Be thou at peace."  
E'er may that line of gray  
Increase from day to day  
Live, serve, and die, we pray,  
West Point, for thee.

I want to talk about my class, the class of 1980, a little bit. They are now mostly part of that Long Gray Line. We have some still on Active Duty, but they are leaving soon, and they have served faithfully over the years.

Folks will recognize some of these names. Our motto was "Pride and Excellence." These are the statistics I got from AOG. We all know that there is

garbage in, garbage out, so some of my classmates are not updating their records. They may not be 100 percent accurate, but the numbers are pretty good.

We graduated with 902. We think there are 23 who are deceased.

We graduated 62 women. These are the pioneers. This is the first class of women who graduated from West Point. They are very close. I talk with many of them frequently, and we are all very proud of them. It was not easy for these women, as you can imagine, in an all-male institution, and they are a tribute to our class.

We have four four-star generals or officers. Two recently retired, Brooks and Perkins. We still have Thomas, who is the commander of Special Operations Command, and Votel, who is commander at CENTCOM. They are both retiring soon.

We had six lieutenant generals, Donohue, Cheek, Hodges, Lanza, Chipman, and Linnington, and they are retired.

We had eight major generals and nine brigadier generals, the one stars. I want to note Brigadier General Retired Anne MacDonald who, for our women classmates, rose to the highest ranks of military service.

We have religious leaders in our class, pastors, chaplains, deacons. One that I like to always catch up with and follow is Nancy Gucwa, who is a Benedictine Sister, Nancy Rose Gucwa, who retired as lieutenant colonel and then became a nun.

□ 2015

We have medical doctors, and we have university professors. I would also like to highlight Jeff Williams, our astronaut who has spent more time in space as a guide of the United States NASA program. Now there is a female astronaut who just surpassed him, but he has been in space quite a bit, and we are very, very proud of him.

I think what is also interesting is that people talk about the military academies and these institutions as the proverbial return on investment. I think my colleagues have talked about the selfless service of their classmates and the people they have met. I think the interesting thing that I came upon in just going over some data from my class is we know that every graduate, for the most part, goes to serve in Active Duty, and the desire is for a 20-year service at a minimum. But a lot of people choose not to do that. I think what surprised me was how many people picked up the mantle in other branches of service or in the Reserve program. So out of the 902, I think about 422 retired from military service, that is getting close to 50 percent.

What are those?

That is, obviously, the United States Army, the United States Army Reserve, and the United States Army National Guard. We had a couple retired from the Air Force, and we had one retire, I think from the Coast Guard. So

selfless service, even as a part-time, and those who follow the military today, if you are in the Reserves or you are in the Guard, you are working, and you can be deployed. It is not a weekend warrior status anymore. They are part of the total military force.

We also have published authors, college professors, master level, world-class athletes, and even an artist. Some of our classmates now have their children who are already graduates, who already served their time and are already out of the service, so generation after generation of families. That is just an example of one of our classes.

The Association of Graduates does a good job, as was noted here, trying to keep us connected to our alma mater. We have folks that come, not only from every one of the 50 States based on the way the nomination process goes, but we also have folks from foreign countries who are invited to serve and go through the program, and that is the unity the association of graduates attempts to do.

So this night was spent to really accomplish two things: one, to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Association of Graduates whose goal was to keep these bonds of friendship and keep reminding us of the goal of duty, honor, country.

Another part was to thank our classmates who have served with us, who help get us through the 4 years of training in the program, thanks to staff and faculty, thanks to the Department of Army Civilians, thanks to maintainers to allow us—really we should thank the national government for continuing to support the great institutions of higher military learning and training like West Point, Annapolis, the Air Force Academy, the Merchant Marine Academy, and the Coast Guard Academy.

I am going to end with the end of the Douglas MacArthur speech. Congressman WATKINS read the first part. I was going to read that too because it is one of my favorites.

I will end on this, Mr. Speaker. This is the end of the speech General Douglas MacArthur gave to the Corps of Cadets: "But in the evening of my memory, always I come back to West Point. Always there echoes and re-echoes: Duty, Honor, Country. Today marks my final roll call with you, but I want you to know that when I cross the river my last conscious thoughts will be of The Corps, and The Corps, and The Corps. I bid you farewell."

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### HONORING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Speaker for the opportunity. We cer-

tainly appreciate the esteemed institution that is West Point. May I also say that the United States Marines are also a great institution, and I want to thank the Speaker for his service in Afghanistan and in Iraq as well.

#### RECOGNIZING MELINDA JONES WILLIAMS

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I want to recognize Melinda Jones Williams.

Melinda Jones Williams, a civil rights activist, was born March 14, 1950, in Americus, Georgia. She is currently a resident of Haines City, Florida, with one child, Jeffrey Jones.

In July, 1963, Melinda Jones Williams was one of 15 young Black girls with a passion to change the bigotry and divisiveness in Americus, Georgia, by protesting a strong force of generational racism. During a peaceful protest, she was arrested along with 14 other young girls. These girls were all stolen, hidden from their parents, and locked in an abandoned building for over a month. There were no windows, toilets, and no source of water.

This was their punishment for protesting a segregated movie theater. Melinda Jones Williams is one of the few remaining survivors of the Stolen Girls of Americus, Georgia.

For that and her heroism in the civil rights movement, we thank you, Ms. Jones Williams.

#### RECOGNIZING CHARLIE REED

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I want to recognize Charlie Reed.

She was born and raised in Kissimmee, Florida, my hometown. She was the first in her family to graduate from college with a degree in journalism from the University of Florida in 1997. She has worked at the Orlando Sentinel, Osceola News-Gazette, and Treasure Coast Newspapers. While working for the Stars and Stripes newspaper, she has covered international defense, geopolitics, and the U.S. military community.

After a reporting trip to Vietnam, Charlie moved there to do volunteer work and write about Vietnam veterans living in the place where they fought a war so many years before. While living in Vietnam, she was named editor for an English-language Vietnamese magazine and worked closely with several NGOs helping Agent Orange victims and impoverished children.

Charlie came back to Kissimmee in 2014 to reconnect with her Florida roots. It was a homecoming that led her back to the staff at the Osceola News-Gazette. As a seasoned journalist who has lived around the world, Charlie knows no stranger. Her ability to connect with people and understand their problems is perhaps her greatest strength. Charlie's life work is about more than chasing a story. It is about serving the community, being an advocate for the public, a voice for the voiceless and shining light on corruption. The pleasure she experiences while helping others is truly all hers.

For that, Charlie Reed, we recognize you.

#### RECOGNIZING JUANITA GEATHERS

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I want to recognize Juanita Geathers.

Juanita Geathers has six children and nine grandchildren with her husband, Lemuel Geathers, former mayor of Winter Haven. She has spent 34 years as an educator in Polk County schools, retiring as an assistant principal in 2004. She graduated from Jewett High School as valedictorian in 1959, went on to receive her bachelor of science degree from Rollins College and a master's in education from the University of South Florida.

Juanita served as Secretary for the Florida Democratic Party State Executive Committee and was the highest ranking African American woman during her tenure as Secretary. She also served as a Democratic National Convention delegate from Florida for three conventions.

As an active member of her community, she is a recipient of the Outstanding Community Service Award. She has served on the Polk Education Association, Polk County Opportunity Council, Polk County Voters League, Girls and Boys Club, and Girls, Inc. She is also a lifetime member of the NAACP and a member of the Hurst Chapel AME Church.

For that, Ms. Juanita Geathers, we honor you.

#### RECOGNIZING MONICA READUS

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I want to recognize Monica Readus.

Monica Readus is a wife, mother, business owner, and real estate professional. She was born in Detroit, Michigan.

After moving to Texas, Monica became aware of a shift in the political climate. After the 2004 Presidential race, Democrats were discouraged and Dallas Republicans were running unopposed. It was at that time that Monica took time away from the company's day-to-day operations to become a full-time volunteer for the Collin County Democratic Party office in Plano, Texas.

Since then, Monica has worked with candidates and campaign managers, coordinated grassroots efforts for local and Federal elections, and fundraised for candidates and more. In 2011 Monica moved to Florida where she immediately began coordinating grassroots efforts for Organizing for America by spearheading daily phone banks. She then joined the Democratic Women's Club of Florida of West Orange County, serving as its first president.

She now happily serves as the Democratic Women's Club of Florida Region 9 chair, serving nearly 600 members and the chair of the Annual PerSisters Rally in celebration of Democratic Women's Month.

For that, Monica Readus, we honor you.

## RECOGNIZING LISA SANTONI CROMAR

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I want to recognize Lisa Santoni Cromar.

Lisa Santoni Cromar is a legally deaf Puerto Rican woman. She is the mother to two boys, Nicholas and William, and the wife to Scott Cromar. She was born in 1962 to Puerto Rican parents, Trina and Jose Santoni. Her early career was in corporate IT. At age 30, she divorced her first husband and went to work for the domestic violence agency that helped her leave. After meeting her husband, Scott, he had a friend running for Congress, which presented an opportunity to transition to political consulting and issue advocacy. She has served as voting chair and co-chair, and is now an executive board member of the Women's March of Florida.

In 2003, the longtime consequences of her Meniere's disease became unbearable, resulting in severe hearing loss. In 2016, Lisa moved to Longwood, Florida. Like everyone else in her new community, she was horrified by the Pulse nightclub shooting. The lack of family support for some of the victims combined with memories of post-9/11 days, prompted Lisa to reach out to the affected communities offering a safe place and a safe space for frightened neighbors as well as visiting victims' families.

When Hurricanes Irma and Maria worsened Puerto Rico's already delicate situation, Lisa refocused her advocacy efforts on achieving a just recovery for her islands. Lisa is currently vice president of *Diaspora en Resistencia*, an international coalition of human rights organizations working for a better future for Puerto Rico. She also sits on the steering committee for *Vamos4PR*.

For that, Lisa Santoni Cromar, we honor you.

## RECOGNIZING KAREN GREEN

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I want to recognize Karen Green.

Reverend Dr. Karen R. Green, a proud Jamaican-born Caribbean American, is a former U.N. Humanitarian Religious Ambassador At Large. She is a tireless community advocate and social justice crusader fighting to enhance the rights of women, defend religious freedoms, and secure the civil liberties of immigrants.

As a resident of Florida for over 20 years, Dr. Green has leveraged her talents as a respected political strategist, campaign manager, and expert mediator. She has served as the Democratic Party's former Caribbean Coalition Director for the State of Florida and its territories. Her vast political and voter advocacy record includes service as field officer for President Barack Obama's Presidential election campaign, Coalition Director for Hillary Clinton's Presidential primary and general election campaigns, and political advance to U.S. territories.

Dr. Green has led on issues of universal healthcare, a woman's right to

choose, and immigration reform with a pathway to citizenship under DAPA and DACA as well. Dr. Green is also noted to have been instrumental on the front lines of the fight to secure in-state tuition for undocumented students living in Florida.

Dr. Green currently serves as the CEO of the Liberty and Justice for All Community Foundation and is the primary partner at Blue Fields Consultants International.

Passion for service and a strong sense of dedication to critical social issues is clearly a key motivating force for Dr. Green.

She merits these values to her Christian beliefs and cultural experiences as a Jamaican-born immigrant.

She quotes Marcus Mosiah Garvey himself, a Jamaican native and noted civil rights leader, with: "A people without the knowledge of their past history, culture, and origin is like a tree without roots."

And for that, Ms. Karen Green, we honor you.

□ 2030

## RECOGNIZING KIM PORTEOUS

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I want to recognize Kim Porteous.

Kim Porteous is one of many activists ignited by the modern women's movement at the March on Washington, D.C., on January 24, 2017.

She is a community organizer who is supported by a community of women. Although she has been involved in advocacy throughout her life, she knew, as a former survivor of rape, workplace sexual assaults, and domestic abuse, that she needed to make it her life's work to stand for women, sexual assault victims, the disabled, the LGBTQ community, immigrants, Dreamers, against climate change, for religious minorities, and to promote healthcare.

She is committed to amplifying the voices of marginalized communities through intersectional feminism and uniting communities regardless of their privilege.

The 2016 election led Kim to amplify her message of equality beyond her circle of friends and get out in the community to engage.

She has had the privilege of supporting organizations and community partners, including the National Organization for Women, Organize Florida, Planned Parenthood, For Our Future, ADAPT, Rubio Tuesdays, Hope House, Moms Demand Action, March for Women, and Fight for \$15 an Hour.

Kim is currently the vice president of the Greater Orlando chapter of the National Organization for Women and is focused on sustained action to achieve the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

And for that, Ms. Kim Porteous, we honor you.

## RECOGNIZING RASHA MUBARAK

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I want to recognize Rasha Mubarak.

Rasha Mubarak is a Palestinian American Muslim community activist and leader who was recently named Ten People Making Orlando a Better Place to Be by the Orlando Weekly.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, and raised in the heart of central Florida, she is a current facilitator for the Trust Orlando Coalition, helping make history by passing the first TRUST Act, not only in Florida but in the Southeastern region of the United States.

Rasha also serves as a vice president for the Muslim Women's Organization. She is the president of the Young Democrats of Orange County, a media political strategist, is the president of Orlando's Palestine Children's Relief Fund.

While working in the Arab American community, she helped launch impactful programs such as Welcoming Immigrants Now Group and its domestic violence program.

A sought-after speaker about topics including Palestinian rights, Islamophobia, and women's representation in Islam, Rasha has been a grassroots organizer and speaker for statewide demonstrations and campaigns for interfaith work, Palestinian rights, and #NoMuslimBanEver, immigrant rights, and Black and Brown liberation.

Rasha leads educational panel discussions dispelling stereotypes about Muslim women.

In 2015, she cofounded Floridians Responding to Refugees, spearheading efforts to welcome and transition refugees.

She was previously a mental health counseling volunteer with the Palestine Medical Relief Society in Ramallah, aiding women and children suffering from PTSD.

And for that, Ms. Rasha Mubarak, we honor you.

## RECOGNIZING NICOLETTE FARIELLO SPRINGER

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I want to recognize Nicolette Fariello Springer.

Nicolette is the sort of woman who does not fit conveniently into a mold. She is a criminologist, college educator, and a doting mother to her two daughters, Emmerson and Avery.

With a master's degree in criminal justice from the University of Central Florida, Nicolette specializes in mental health and substance abuse. She was the assistant director of the Criminal Justice Mental Health Substance Abuse Technical Assistance Center, where she focused on program evaluation and policy analysis across the State of Florida.

Nicolette's research areas include mental health court, drug court, and corrections. It is her work in criminal justice that informs her work as a community activist, championing issues around adverse childhood experiences, social justice, and access to education and healthcare.

Nicolette serves as the champion leader for central and north Florida for

the United Nations Foundation Shot@Life Campaign, which focuses on advocating for access to vaccines in the developing world.

On the local front, she co-leads a Girl Scout troop of 27 girls and gives them the opportunity to see the best in themselves.

Nicolette's activism led her to run for office during the historic Pink Wave of 2018. She parlayed her own campaign experience into a full-time position on a Democratic gubernatorial campaign and continues to advocate for progressive values.

She is currently one of the co-chairs of the Juvenile Justice Committee for the Central Florida League of Women Voters and serves on the Victory Council for Ruth's List Florida. She is the legislative analyst for the League of Women Voters of Florida, empowering voters and helping improve the lives of all Floridians.

For that, Nicolette Fariello Springer, we honor you.

#### RECOGNIZING IZA MONTALVO

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I want to recognize Iza Montalvo.

Iza Montalvo lives in Orlando with her husband and two sons. She is an award-winning journalist, former news executive, radio anchor, television producer, and congressional staffer recognized by the United States Congress for her contributions to the Hispanic community. In 2015, *Vision* magazine named her as one of central Florida's most influential Hispanics.

Under her leadership as the former editor-in-chief of *La Prensa*, the oldest running publication in central Florida and also founded by a relative of mine, readership almost doubled in 1 year alone.

As a reporter for the largest Spanish-language media outlet in the country, some of her stories gained national attention during her almost 20-year journalism career.

While working as a reporter, she covered news events like the protests at the United Nations against the U.S. Navy military practices in the island of Vieques, protests in Times Square against the war in Iraq, the aftermath of 9/11, the World Economic Forum, and the New York blackout.

She has had the opportunity to interview high-profile politicians and celebrities of worldwide recognition as well as holding an exclusive interview with the Federal agent who stopped the 20th hijacker from catching a flight during the terrorist attacks on 9/11.

Her reporting with the Puerto Rican diaspora, neglected communities of color, Latinx and migrant communities earned her recognitions and awards from the prestigious National Association of Hispanic Publications.

She served as the press secretary of two U.S. Representatives before taking her vast experience into a new business venture. She currently is the founder and president of the Olan Group, a purpose-led communications, research, and consultancy firm in Orlando.

As an independent journalist and media strategist, she is focused on raising awareness about underreported issues affecting the world, like environmental justice and women's rights, in Spanish language and media outlets covering the Latinx experience in the U.S.

She also served as our press secretary from 2017 to 2018 and did an absolutely fantastic job.

And for that, Ms. Iza Montalvo, we honor you.

#### RECOGNIZING DR. CATHERINE "ELIZABETH" MCCARTHY

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I want to recognize Dr. Catherine "Elizabeth" McCarthy.

Dr. Elizabeth McCarthy currently serves as the legislative director for the Florida LGBT Democratic Caucus and as federal chair of the Democratic Women's Club of Florida.

Born in Richmond, Virginia, she moved to Florida in 1981. After attending high school in Pasco County, she attended the University of Florida and Florida State University on basketball scholarships and graduated from Florida State in 1992 with a degree in criminology.

She then went back to school to become a nurse. After spending 25 years working as a cardio operating room registered nurse for the Florida Heart Group, she decided to attend medical school at the University of Central Florida and soon became a cardiologist.

Elizabeth was working at Orlando Regional Medical Center the night of the horrific Pulse nightclub shooting in Orlando, Florida. As a doctor, her work was vital in saving the lives of many victims and members of our community. She was able to remove 77 bullets out of 32 victims.

As a member of the LGBT community and an LGBT activist, she now serves on the One Pulse Foundation Memorial Task Force, established to create a sanctuary of hope and to grant care for the families of victims and survivors.

And for that, Dr. Elizabeth McCarthy, we honor you.

#### RECOGNIZING ANN MARIE SIEFKER

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I want to recognize Ann Marie Siefker.

Ann Marie Siefker was born on May 8, 1957. She attended Cardinal Gibbons High School and graduated from Florida Atlantic University with a degree in education.

Ann was a special education teacher at West Orange High School, a long-time member of the Classroom Teachers Association, and taught children for over 30 years.

Ann joined God on November 18, 2018, and we are recognizing her posthumously. She is survived by her mother, Mary; her brothers, Joseph and James; and her sister, Joan.

Ms. Ann Marie Siefker, for that, we honor you.

#### RECOGNIZING CHRISTINA WHITFIELD ATKINSON

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I want to recognize Christina Whitfield Atkinson.

Christina Whitfield Atkinson resides with her husband, Jeffrey; their four dogs; and is supported by her son, Thomas; two stepdaughters, Mariah and Amber; and her four grandchildren.

She has long believed women are the backbone to any successful, prosperous society. She has earned both a bachelor's and master's degree in business administration and has worked for the past 20 years in multiple professional capacities, including owning a dental supply company; working in risk management, internet security, insurance claims, as an adjunct university professor; and has dedicated hundreds of hours to various charities.

She believes in promoting a philosophy of integrity and honor through giving back to those who have given her so much. She believes there is no greater honor than participating in and promoting philanthropic activities.

In January 2018, after leaving her role in corporate America, she was appointed as the VA representative for Soldiers' Angels. As the wife of an Air Force veteran, sister to a Navy veteran, and mother-in-law to an Active-Duty Army soldier, Christina was thrilled to volunteer for one of the highest ranked 501(c)(3) organizations, which is dedicated to supporting our military veterans.

Christina oversees a diverse group of volunteers in the Orlando area who visit veterans who are patients at the VA Hospital at Lake Nona; help with veteran support events, including distributing gifts and blankets from the community; and oversee the monthly mobile food distribution, which provides 200 low-income veterans 50 pounds of food each month.

If she is not at the VA supporting our veterans, she is reaching deep into the community to find other groups and business and community leaders to help our military veterans.

Her love of the military is her primary focus in all she does and is permanently ingrained in her.

And for that, Ms. Christina Whitfield Atkinson, we honor you.

#### RECOGNIZING CHLOE C. BATTLE

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I want to recognize Chloe C. Battle.

Chloe Battle works in Orlando, Florida, as the executive director for the local food pantry called Servant's Heart Ministry. The faith-based organization feeds children, seniors, and other vulnerable individuals through community partnerships by providing basic needs, empowering people to grow and thrive in their own neighborhoods, and offering opportunities for people to serve.

Ms. Battle's mission is to feed the hungry, and she also advocates for building relationships, which she says is the most important part of serving and is the cornerstone for community

health. When you get to know a family at the interpersonal level, their needs become more apparent and easier to address, and resources provided become more meaningful to them.

Before entering the nonprofit sector, Ms. Battle acquired her bachelor of science in psychology from Indiana University, working out of a prestigious child development lab. She developed a keen interest in health psychology and social work and, from there, maintained a personal commitment to caregiving, family, advocacy, and community casework.

Ms. Battle cites that her strength comes from God and personal experience, and her growth as a leader and community partner drives her forward to show others how everyone can do something and that education and nurturing is the key to the success of all families.

And for that, Ms. Chloe C. Battle, we honor you.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

## PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE RULES

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON ETHICS FOR THE 116TH CONGRESS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Washington, DC, March 7, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to clause 2 of Rule XI, I submit to the House the Rules of the Committee on Ethics for the 116th Congress for publication in the Congressional Record.

Sincerely,

THEODORE E. DEUTCH,  
Chairman.

Enclosure.

## FOREWORD

The Committee on Ethics is unique in the House of Representatives. Consistent with the duty to carry out its advisory and enforcement responsibilities in an impartial manner, the Committee is the only standing committee of the House of Representatives the membership of which is divided evenly by party. These rules are intended to provide a fair procedural framework for the conduct of the Committee's activities and to help ensure that the Committee serves well the people of the United States, the House of Representatives, and the Members, officers, and employees of the House of Representatives.

## PART I—GENERAL COMMITTEE RULES

### RULE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) So far as applicable, these rules and the Rules of the House of Representatives shall be the rules of the Committee and any subcommittee. The Committee adopts these rules under the authority of clause 2(a)(1) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, 116th Congress.

(b) The rules of the Committee may be modified, amended, or repealed by a vote of a majority of the Committee.

(c) When the interests of justice so require, the Committee, by a majority vote of its members, may adopt any special procedures, not inconsistent with these rules, deemed necessary to resolve a particular matter before it. Copies of such special procedures shall be furnished to all parties in the matter.

(d) The Chair and Ranking Minority Member shall have access to such information that they request as necessary to conduct Committee business.

### RULE 2. DEFINITIONS

(a) "Committee" means the Committee on Ethics.

(b) "Complaint" means a written allegation of improper conduct against a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives filed with the Committee with the intent to initiate an inquiry.

(c) "Inquiry" means an investigation by an investigative subcommittee into allegations against a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives.

(d) "Investigate," "Investigating," and/or "Investigation" mean review of the conduct of a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives that is conducted or authorized by the Committee, an investigative subcommittee, or the Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee.

(e) "Board" means the Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics.

(f) "Referral" means a report sent to the Committee from the Board pursuant to House Rules and all applicable House Resolutions regarding the conduct of a House Member, officer, or employee, including any accompanying findings or other supporting documentation.

(g) "Investigative Subcommittee" means a subcommittee designated pursuant to Rule 19(a) to conduct an inquiry to determine if a Statement of Alleged Violation should be issued.

(h) "Statement of Alleged Violation" means a formal charging document filed by an investigative subcommittee with the Committee containing specific allegations against a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives of a violation of the Code of Official Conduct, or of a law, rule, regulation, or other standard of conduct applicable to the performance of official duties or the discharge of official responsibilities.

(i) "Adjudicatory Subcommittee" means a subcommittee designated pursuant to Rule 23(a) that holds an adjudicatory hearing and determines whether the counts in a Statement of Alleged Violation are proved by clear and convincing evidence.

(j) "Sanction Hearing" means a Committee hearing to determine what sanction, if any, to adopt or to recommend to the House of Representatives.

(k) "Respondent" means a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives who is the subject of an investigation.

(l) "Office of Advice and Education" refers to the Office established by section 803(i) of the Ethics Reform Act of 1989. The Office handles inquiries; prepares written opinions in response to specific requests; develops general guidance; and organizes seminars, workshops, and briefings for the benefit of the House of Representatives.

(m) "Member" means a Representative in, or a Delegate to, or the Resident Commissioner to, the U.S. House of Representatives.

### RULE 3. ADVISORY OPINIONS AND WAIVERS

(a) The Office of Advice and Education shall handle inquiries; prepare written opinions providing specific advice, including reviews of requests for privately-sponsored travel pursuant to the Committee's Travel Guidelines and Regulations; develop general guidance; and organize seminars, workshops, and briefings for the benefit of the House of Representatives.

(b) Any Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives may request a written opinion with respect to the propriety of any current or proposed conduct of such Member, officer, or employee.

(c) The Office of Advice and Education may provide information and guidance regarding laws, rules, regulations, and other standards of conduct applicable to Members, officers, and employees in the performance of their duties or the discharge of their responsibilities.

(d) In general, the Committee shall provide a written opinion to an individual only in response to a written request, and the written opinion shall address the conduct only of the inquiring individual, or of persons for whom the inquiring individual is responsible as employing authority.

(e) A written request for an opinion shall be addressed to the Chair of the Committee and shall include a complete and accurate statement of the relevant facts. A request shall be signed by the requester or the requester's authorized representative or employing authority. A representative shall disclose to the Committee the identity of the principal on whose behalf advice is being sought.

(f) Requests for privately-sponsored travel shall be treated like any other request for a written opinion for purposes of paragraphs (g) through (l).

(1) The Committee's Travel Guidelines and Regulations shall govern the request submission and Committee approval process for privately-sponsored travel consistent with House Rules.

(2) A request for privately-sponsored travel of a Member, officer, or employee shall include a completed and signed Traveler Form that attaches the Private Sponsor Certification Form and includes all information required by the Committee's Travel Guidelines and Regulations. A private sponsor offering officially-connected travel to a Member, officer, or employee must complete and sign a Private Sponsor Certification Form, and provide a copy of that form to the invitee(s).

(3) Any individual who knowingly and willfully falsifies, or who knowingly and willfully fails to file, any form required by the Committee's Travel Guidelines and Regulations may be subject to civil penalties and criminal sanctions pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1001.

(g) The Office of Advice and Education shall prepare for the Committee a response to each written request for an opinion from a Member, officer, or employee. Each response shall discuss all applicable laws, rules, regulations, or other standards.

(h) Where a request is unclear or incomplete, the Office of Advice and Education may seek additional information from the requester.

(i) The Chair and Ranking Minority Member are authorized to take action on behalf of the Committee on any proposed written opinion that they determine does not require consideration by the Committee. If the Chair or Ranking Minority Member requests a written opinion, or seeks a waiver, extension, or approval pursuant to Rules 3(m), 4(c), 4(e), or 4(h), the next ranking member of the requester's party is authorized to act in lieu of the requester.

(j) The Committee shall keep confidential any request for advice from a Member, officer, or employee, as well as any response thereto. Upon request of any Member, officer, or employee who has submitted a written request for an opinion or submitted a request for privately-sponsored travel, the Committee may release to the requesting individual a copy of their own written request for advice or submitted travel forms, any subsequent written communications between such individual and Committee staff regarding the request, and any Committee advisory opinion or travel letter issued to that individual in response. The Committee shall not release any internal Committee staff work product, communications, or notes in response to such a request, except as authorized by the Committee.

(k) The Committee may take no adverse action in regard to any conduct that has been undertaken in reliance on a written opinion if the conduct conforms to the specific facts addressed in the opinion.

(l) Information provided to the Committee by a Member, officer, or employee seeking advice regarding prospective conduct may not be used as the basis for initiating an investigation under clause 3(a)(2) or clause 3(b) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, if such Member, officer, or employee acts in good faith in accordance with the written advice of the Committee.

(m) A written request for a waiver of clause 5 of House Rule XXV (the House gift rule), or for any other waiver or approval, shall be treated in all respects like any other request for a written opinion.

(n) A written request for a waiver of clause 5 of House Rule XXV (the House gift rule) shall specify the nature of the waiver being sought and the specific circumstances justifying the waiver.

(o) An employee seeking a waiver of time limits applicable to travel paid for by a private source shall include with the request evidence that the employing authority is aware of the request. In any other instance where proposed employee conduct may reflect on the performance of official duties, the Committee may require that the requester submit evidence that the employing authority knows of the conduct.

#### RULE 4. FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

(a) In matters relating to Title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, the Committee shall coordinate with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, Legislative Resource Center, to assure that appropriate individuals are notified of their obligation to file reports required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act and that such individuals are provided in a timely fashion with filing instructions and forms developed by the Committee.

(b) The Committee shall coordinate with the Legislative Resource Center to assure that information that the Ethics in Government Act requires to be placed on the public record is made public.

(c) Any reports required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act filed by Members of the Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics that are forwarded to the Committee by the Clerk shall not be subject to paragraphs (d) through (q) of this Rule. The Office of Congressional Ethics retains jurisdiction over review of the timeliness and completeness of filings by Members of the Board as the Board's supervising ethics office.

(d) The Chair and Ranking Minority Member are authorized to grant on behalf of the Committee requests for reasonable extensions of time for the filing of Financial Disclosure Statements. Any such request must be received by the Committee no later than the date on which the Statement in question is due. A request received after such date may be granted by the Committee only in extraordinary circumstances. Such extensions for one individual in a calendar year shall not exceed a total of 90 days per Statement, including any amendment required by the Committee in accordance with clause (m). No extension shall be granted authorizing a nonincumbent candidate to file a statement later than 30 days prior to a primary or general election in which the candidate is participating.

(e) An individual who takes legally sufficient action to withdraw as a candidate before the date on which that individual's Financial Disclosure Statement is due under the Ethics in Government Act shall not be required to file a Statement. An individual

shall not be excused from filing a Financial Disclosure Statement when withdrawal as a candidate occurs after the date on which such Statement was due.

(f) Any individual who files a report required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act more than 30 days after the later of—

(1) the date such report is required to be filed, or

(2) if a filing extension is granted to such individual, the last day of the filing extension period, is required by such Act to pay a late filing fee of \$200. The Chair and Ranking Minority Member are authorized to approve requests that the fee be waived based on extraordinary circumstances.

(g) Any late report that is submitted without a required filing fee shall be deemed procedurally deficient and not properly filed.

(h) The Chair and Ranking Minority Member are authorized to approve requests for waivers of the aggregation and reporting of gifts as provided by section 102(a)(2)(C) of the Ethics in Government Act. If such a request is approved, both the incoming request and the Committee response shall be forwarded to the Legislative Resource Center for placement on the public record.

(i) The Chair and Ranking Minority Member are authorized to approve blind trusts as qualifying under section 102(f)(3) of the Ethics in Government Act. The correspondence relating to formal approval of a blind trust, the trust document, the list of assets transferred to the trust, and any other documents required by law to be made public, shall be forwarded to the Legislative Resource Center for such purpose.

(j) The Committee shall designate staff who shall review reports required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act and, based upon information contained therein, indicate in a form and manner prescribed by the Committee whether the Statement appears substantially accurate and complete and the filer appears to be in compliance with applicable laws and rules.

(k) Each report required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act shall be reviewed within 60 days after the date of filing.

(l) If the reviewing staff believes that additional information is required because (1) the report required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act appears not substantially accurate or complete, or (2) the filer may not be in compliance with applicable laws or rules, then the reporting individual shall be notified in writing of the additional information believed to be required, or of the law or rule with which the reporting individual does not appear to be in compliance. Such notice shall also state the time within which a response is to be submitted. Any such notice shall remain confidential.

(m) Within the time specified, including any extension granted in accordance with clause (d), a reporting individual who concurs with the Committee's notification that the report required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act is not complete, or that other action is required, shall submit the necessary information or take appropriate action. Any amendment may be in the form of a revised report required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act or an explanatory letter addressed to the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

(n) Any amendment shall be placed on the public record in the same manner as other reports required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act. The individual designated by the Committee to review the original report required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act shall review any amendment thereto.

(o) Within the time specified, including any extension granted in accordance with

clause (d), a reporting individual who does not agree with the Committee that the report required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act is deficient or that other action is required, shall be provided an opportunity to respond orally or in writing. If the explanation is accepted, a copy of the response, if written, or a note summarizing an oral response, shall be retained in Committee files with the original report.

(p) The Committee shall be the final arbiter of whether any report required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act requires clarification or amendment.

(q) If the Committee determines, by vote of a majority of its members, that there is reason to believe that an individual has willfully failed to file a report required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act or has willfully falsified or willfully failed to file information required to be reported, then the Committee shall refer the name of the individual, together with the evidence supporting its finding, to the Attorney General pursuant to section 104(b) of the Ethics in Government Act. Such referral shall not preclude the Committee from initiating such other action as may be authorized by other provisions of law or the Rules of the House of Representatives.

#### RULE 5. MEETINGS

(a) The regular meeting day of the Committee shall be the second Tuesday of each month, except when the House of Representatives is not meeting on that day. When the Committee Chair determines that there is sufficient reason, meetings may be called on additional days. A regularly scheduled meeting need not be held when the Chair determines there is no business to be considered.

(b) The Chair shall establish the agenda for meetings of the Committee, and the Ranking Minority Member may place additional items on the agenda.

(c) All meetings of the Committee or any subcommittee shall occur in executive session unless the Committee or subcommittee, by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members, opens the meeting to the public.

(d) Any hearing held by an adjudicatory subcommittee, or any sanction hearing held by the Committee, shall be open to the public unless the Committee or subcommittee, by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members, closes the hearing to the public.

(e) A subcommittee shall meet at the discretion of its Chair.

(f) Insofar as practicable, notice for any Committee or subcommittee meeting shall be provided at least seven days in advance of the meeting. The Chair of the Committee or subcommittee may waive such time period for good cause.

#### RULE 6. COMMITTEE STAFF

(a) The staff is to be assembled and retained as a professional, nonpartisan staff.

(b) Each member of the staff shall be professional and demonstrably qualified for the position for which the individual is hired.

(c) The staff as a whole and each individual member of the staff shall perform all official duties in a nonpartisan manner.

(d) No member of the staff shall engage in any partisan political activity directly affecting any congressional or presidential election.

(e) No member of the staff or outside counsel may accept public speaking engagements or write for publication on any subject that is in any way related to the employment or duties with the Committee of such individual without specific prior approval from the Chair and Ranking Minority Member.

(f) All staff members shall be appointed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee. Such vote shall

occur at the first meeting of the membership of the Committee during each Congress and as necessary during the Congress.

(g) Subject to the approval of the Committee on House Administration, the Committee may retain counsel not employed by the House of Representatives whenever the Committee determines, by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee, that the retention of outside counsel is necessary and appropriate.

(h) If the Committee determines that it is necessary to retain staff members for the purpose of a particular investigation or other proceeding, then such staff shall be retained only for the duration of that particular investigation or proceeding.

(i) Outside counsel may be dismissed prior to the end of a contract between the Committee and such counsel only by a majority vote of the members of the Committee.

(j) In addition to any other staff provided for by law, rule, or other authority, with respect to the Committee, the Chair and Ranking Minority Member each may appoint one individual as a shared staff member from the respective personal staff of the Chair or Ranking Minority Member to perform service for the Committee. Such shared staff may assist the Chair or Ranking Minority Member on any subcommittee on which the Chair or Ranking Minority Member serves. Only paragraphs (c) and (e) of this Rule and Rule 7(b) shall apply to shared staff.

#### RULE 7. CONFIDENTIALITY

(a) Before any Member or employee of the Committee, including members of an investigative subcommittee selected under clause 5(a)(4) of Rule X of the House of Representatives and shared staff designated pursuant to Committee Rule 6(j), may have access to information that is confidential under the rules of the Committee, the following oath (or affirmation) shall be executed in writing:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will not disclose, to any person or entity outside the Committee on Ethics, any information received in the course of my service with the Committee, except as authorized by the Committee or in accordance with its rules."

Copies of the executed oath shall be provided to the Clerk of the House as part of the records of the House. Breaches of confidentiality shall be investigated by the Committee and appropriate action shall be taken.

(b) No member of the staff or outside counsel may make public, unless approved by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee, any information, document, or other material that is confidential, derived from executive session, or classified and that is obtained during the course of employment with the Committee.

(c) Committee members and staff shall not disclose any evidence or information relating to any investigation or proceeding of the Committee or a subcommittee to any person or organization outside the Committee, unless authorized by the Committee.

(d) This rule shall not prohibit the Chair or Ranking Minority Member from disclosing to the Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics the existence of a Committee investigation, the name of the Member, officer, or employee of the House who is the subject of that investigation, and a brief statement of the scope of that investigation in a written request for referral pursuant to Rule 17A(k). Such disclosures will only be made subject to written confirmation from the Board that the information provided by the Chair or Ranking Minority Member will be kept confidential by the Board.

(e) A Statement of Alleged Violation and any written response thereto shall be made public at the first meeting or hearing on the

matter that is open to the public after the respondent has been given full opportunity to respond pursuant to Rule 22. Any other materials in the possession of the Committee regarding such statement may be made public as authorized by the Committee to the extent consistent with the Rules of the House of Representatives. If no public hearing is held on the matter, the Statement of Alleged Violation and any written response thereto shall be included in the Committee's final report on the matter to the House of Representatives.

(f) Unless otherwise determined by a vote of the Committee, only the Chair or Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, after consultation with each other, may make public statements regarding matters before the Committee or any subcommittee.

(g) The Committee may establish procedures necessary to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of any testimony or other information received by the Committee or its staff.

#### RULE 8. SUBCOMMITTEES—GENERAL POLICY AND STRUCTURE

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, the Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee may consult with an investigative subcommittee either on their own initiative or on the initiative of the subcommittee, shall have access to evidence and information before a subcommittee with whom they so consult, and shall not thereby be precluded from serving as full, voting members of any adjudicatory subcommittee. Except for the Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee pursuant to this paragraph, evidence in the possession of an investigative subcommittee shall not be disclosed to other Committee members except by a vote of the subcommittee.

(b) The Committee may establish other noninvestigative and nonadjudicatory subcommittees and may assign to them such functions as it may deem appropriate. The membership of each subcommittee shall provide equal representation for the majority and minority parties.

(c) The Chair may refer any bill, resolution, or other matter before the Committee to an appropriate subcommittee for consideration. Any such bill, resolution, or other matter may be discharged from the subcommittee to which it was referred by a majority vote of the Committee.

(d) Any member of the Committee may sit with any noninvestigative or nonadjudicatory subcommittee, but only regular members of such subcommittee may vote on any matter before that subcommittee.

#### RULE 9. QUORUMS AND MEMBER DISQUALIFICATION

(a) The quorum for the Committee or an investigative subcommittee to take testimony and to receive evidence shall be two members, unless otherwise authorized by the House of Representatives.

(b) The quorum for an adjudicatory subcommittee to take testimony, receive evidence, or conduct business shall consist of a majority plus one of the members of the adjudicatory subcommittee.

(c) Except as stated in clauses (a) and (b) of this rule, a quorum for the purpose of conducting business consists of a majority of the members of the Committee or subcommittee.

(d) A member of the Committee shall be ineligible to participate in any Committee or subcommittee proceeding in which such Member is a respondent.

(e) A member of the Committee may seek disqualification from participating in any investigation of the conduct of a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representa-

tives upon the submission in writing and under oath of an affidavit of disqualification stating that the member cannot render an impartial and unbiased decision. If the Committee approves and accepts such affidavit of disqualification, the Chair shall so notify the Speaker and ask the Speaker to designate a Member of the House of Representatives from the same political party as the disqualified member of the Committee to act as a member of the Committee in any Committee proceeding relating to such investigation.

#### RULE 10. VOTE REQUIREMENTS

(a) The following actions shall be taken only upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee or subcommittee, as appropriate:

(1) Issuing a subpoena.

(2) Adopting a full Committee motion to create an investigative subcommittee.

(3) Adopting or amending a Statement of Alleged Violation.

(4) Finding that a count in a Statement of Alleged Violation has been proved by clear and convincing evidence.

(5) Sending a letter of reproof.

(6) Adopting a recommendation to the House of Representatives that a sanction be imposed.

(7) Adopting a report relating to the conduct of a Member, officer, or employee.

(8) Issuing an advisory opinion of general applicability establishing new policy.

(b) Except as stated in clause (a), action may be taken by the Committee or any subcommittee thereof by a simple majority, a quorum being present.

(c) No motion made to take any of the actions enumerated in clause (a) of this Rule may be entertained by the Chair unless a quorum of the Committee is present when such motion is made.

#### RULE 11. COMMITTEE RECORDS

(a) All communications and all pleadings pursuant to these rules shall be filed with the Committee at the Committee's office or such other place as designated by the Committee.

(b) All records of the Committee which have been delivered to the Archivist of the United States shall be made available to the public in accordance with Rule VII of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

#### RULE 12. BROADCASTS OF COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

(a) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(b) Not more than four television cameras, operating from fixed positions, shall be permitted in a hearing or meeting room. The Committee may allocate the positions of permitted television cameras among the television media in consultation with the Executive Committee of the Radio and Television Correspondents' Galleries.

(c) Television cameras shall be placed so as not to obstruct in any way the space between any witness giving evidence or testimony and any member of the Committee, or the visibility of that witness and that member to each other.

(d) Television cameras shall not be placed in positions that unnecessarily obstruct the coverage of the hearing or meeting by the other media.

#### PART II—INVESTIGATIVE AUTHORITY

##### RULE 13. HOUSE RESOLUTION

Whenever the House of Representatives, by resolution, authorizes or directs the Committee to undertake an inquiry or investigation, the provisions of the resolution, in conjunction with these Rules, shall govern. To the extent the provisions of the resolution

differ from these Rules, the resolution shall control.

**RULE 14. COMMITTEE AUTHORITY TO INVESTIGATE—GENERAL POLICY**

(a) Pursuant to clause 3(b) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee may exercise its investigative authority when:

(1) information offered as a complaint, in writing and under oath, by a Member of the House of Representatives is transmitted directly to the Committee;

(2) information offered as a complaint, in writing and under oath, by an individual not a Member of the House is transmitted to the Committee, provided that a Member of the House certifies in writing that such Member believes the information is submitted in good faith and warrants the review and consideration of the Committee;

(3) the Committee, on its own initiative, undertakes an investigation;

(4) a Member, officer, or employee is indicted or otherwise formally charged with criminal conduct or is convicted of a felony in a Federal, State, or local court;

(5) the House of Representatives, by resolution, authorizes or directs the Committee to undertake an inquiry or investigation; or

(6) a referral from the Board is transmitted to the Committee.

(b) The Committee also has investigatory authority over:

(1) certain unauthorized disclosures of intelligence-related information, pursuant to House Rule X, clauses 11(g)(4) and (g)(5);

(2) reports received from the Office of the Inspector General pursuant to House Rule II, clause 6(c)(5);

(3) determinations regarding appeals from fines imposed by the Sergeant-at-Arms for the use of electronic devices in contravention of applicable House rules or policies, pursuant to House Rule II, clause 3(g); and

(4) information received from the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, pursuant to the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995.

**RULE 15. COMPLAINTS**

(a) A complaint submitted to the Committee shall be in writing, dated, and properly verified (a document will be considered properly verified where a notary executes it with the language, "Signed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on (date) by (the name of the person)" setting forth in simple, concise, and direct statements—

(1) the name and legal address of the party filing the complaint (hereinafter referred to as the "complainant");

(2) the name and position or title of the respondent(s);

(3) the nature of the alleged violation of the Code of Official Conduct or of other law, rule, regulation, or other standard of conduct applicable to the performance of duties or discharge of responsibilities; and

(4) the facts alleged to give rise to the violation. The complaint shall not contain innuendo, speculative assertions, or conclusory statements.

(b) Any documents in the possession of the complainant that relate to the allegations may be submitted with the complaint.

(c) Information offered as a complaint by a Member of the House of Representatives may be transmitted directly to the Committee.

(d) Information offered as a complaint by an individual not a Member of the House may be transmitted to the Committee, provided that a Member of the House certifies in writing that such Member believes the information is submitted in good faith and warrants the review and consideration of the Committee.

(e) A complaint must be accompanied by a certification, which may be unsworn, that the complainant has provided an exact copy

of the filed complaint and all attachments to the respondent(s).

(f) The Committee may defer action on a complaint against a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives when the complaint alleges conduct that the Committee has reason to believe is being reviewed by appropriate law enforcement or regulatory authorities, or when the Committee determines that it is appropriate for the conduct alleged in the complaint to be reviewed initially by law enforcement or regulatory authorities.

(g) A complaint may not be amended without leave of the Committee. Otherwise, any new allegations of improper conduct must be submitted in a new complaint that independently meets the procedural requirements of the Rules of the House of Representatives and the Committee's Rules.

(h) The Committee shall not accept, and shall return to the complainant, any complaint submitted within the 60 days before a Federal, State, or local election in which the subject of the complaint is a candidate.

(i) The Committee shall not consider a complaint, nor shall any investigation be undertaken by the Committee, of any alleged violation which occurred before the third previous Congress unless the Committee determines that the alleged violation is directly related to an alleged violation which occurred in a more recent Congress.

**RULE 16. DUTIES OF COMMITTEE CHAIR AND RANKING MINORITY MEMBER**

(a) Whenever information offered as a complaint is submitted to the Committee, the Chair and Ranking Minority Member shall have 14 calendar days or 5 legislative days, whichever occurs first, to determine whether the information meets the requirements of the Committee's rules for what constitutes a complaint.

(b) Whenever the Chair and Ranking Minority Member jointly determine that information submitted to the Committee meets the requirements of the Committee's rules for what constitutes a complaint, they shall have 45 calendar days or 5 legislative days, whichever is later, after the date that the Chair and Ranking Minority Member determine that information filed meets the requirements of the Committee's rules for what constitutes a complaint, unless the Committee by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members votes otherwise, to—

(1) recommend to the Committee that it dispose of the complaint, or any portion thereof, in any manner that does not require action by the House, which may include dismissal of the complaint or resolution of the complaint by a letter to the Member, officer, or employee of the House against whom the complaint is made;

(2) establish an investigative subcommittee; or

(3) request that the Committee extend the applicable 45-calendar day period when they determine more time is necessary in order to make a recommendation under paragraph (1) or (2) of Rule 16(b).

(c) The Chair and Ranking Minority Member may jointly gather additional information concerning alleged conduct which is the basis of a complaint or of information offered as a complaint until they have established an investigative subcommittee or the Chair or Ranking Minority Member has placed on the agenda the issue of whether to establish an investigative subcommittee.

(d) If the Chair and Ranking Minority Member jointly determine that information submitted to the Committee meets the requirements of the Committee rules for what constitutes a complaint, and the complaint is not disposed of within 45 calendar days or 5 legislative days, whichever is later, and no

additional 45-day extension is made, then they shall establish an investigative subcommittee and forward the complaint, or any portion thereof, to that subcommittee for its consideration. If at any time during the time period either the Chair or Ranking Minority Member places on the agenda the issue of whether to establish an investigative subcommittee, then an investigative subcommittee may be established only by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee.

(e) Whenever the Chair and Ranking Minority Member jointly determine that information submitted to the Committee does not meet the requirements for what constitutes a complaint set forth in the Committee rules, they may (1) return the information to the complainant with a statement that it fails to meet the requirements for what constitutes a complaint set forth in the Committee's rules; or (2) recommend to the Committee that it authorize the establishment of an investigative subcommittee.

**RULE 17. PROCESSING OF COMPLAINTS**

(a) If a complaint is in compliance with House and Committee Rules, a copy of the complaint and the Committee Rules shall be forwarded to the respondent(s) within 5 days with notice that the complaint conforms to the applicable rules.

(b) A respondent may, within 30 days of the Committee's notification in clause (a), provide to the Committee any information relevant to a complaint filed with the Committee. The respondent may submit a written statement in response to the complaint. Such a statement shall be signed by the respondent. If the statement is prepared by counsel for the respondent, the respondent shall sign a representation that the respondent has reviewed the response and agrees with the factual assertions contained therein.

(c) The Committee staff may request information from a respondent or obtain additional information relevant to the case from other sources prior to the establishment of an investigative subcommittee only when so directed by the Chair and Ranking Minority Member.

(d) The respondent(s) shall be notified in writing regarding the Chair and Ranking Minority Member's determination under Rule 16(e) or the Committee's decision either to dismiss the complaint or to create an investigative subcommittee.

**RULE 17A. REFERRALS FROM THE BOARD OF THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS**

(a) The Committee has exclusive jurisdiction over the interpretation, administration, and enforcement of the Code of Official Conduct pursuant to clause 1(g) of House Rule X. Receipt of referrals from the Board under this rule does not limit the Committee's discretion to address referrals in any way through the appropriate procedures authorized by Committee Rules. The Committee shall review the report and findings transmitted by the Board without prejudice or presumptions as to the merit of the allegations.

(b)(1) Whenever the Committee receives either (A) a referral containing a written report and any findings and supporting documentation from the Board; or (B) a referral from the Board pursuant to a request under Rule 17A(k), the Chair shall have 45 calendar days or 5 legislative days after the date the referral is received, whichever is later, to make public the report and findings of the Board unless the Chair and Ranking Minority Member jointly decide, or the Committee votes, to withhold such information for not more than one additional 45-day period.

(2) At least one calendar day before the Committee makes public any report and

findings of the Board, the Chair shall notify in writing the Board and the Member, officer, or employee who is the subject of the referral of the impending public release of these documents. At the same time, the Chair shall transmit a copy of any public statement on the Committee's disposition of the matter and any accompanying Committee report to the individual who is the subject of the referral.

(3) All public statements and reports and findings of the Board that are required to be made public under this Rule shall be posted on the Committee's website.

(c) If the OCE report and findings are withheld for an additional 45-day period pursuant to paragraph (b)(1), the Chair shall—

(1) make a public statement on the day of such decision or vote that the matter referred from the Board has been extended; and

(2) make public the written report and findings pursuant to paragraph (b) upon the termination of such additional period.

(d) If the Board transmits a report with a recommendation to dismiss or noting a matter as unresolved due to a tie vote, and the matter is extended for an additional period as provided in paragraph (b), the Committee is not required to make a public statement that the matter has been extended pursuant to paragraph (b)(1).

(e) If the Committee votes to dismiss a matter referred from the Board, the Committee is not required to make public the written report and findings of the Board pursuant to paragraph (c) unless the Committee's vote is inconsistent with the recommendation of the Board. A vote by the Committee to dismiss a matter is not considered inconsistent with a report from the Board that the matter is unresolved by the Board due to a tie vote.

(f) Except as provided by paragraph (g):

(1) If the Committee establishes an investigative subcommittee respecting any matter referred by the Board, then the report and findings of the Board shall not be made public until the conclusion of the investigative subcommittee process. The Committee shall issue a public statement noting the establishment of an investigative subcommittee, which shall include the name of the Member, officer, or employee who is the subject of the inquiry, and shall set forth the alleged violation.

(2) If any such investigative subcommittee does not conclude its review within one year after the Board's referral, then the Committee shall make public the report of the Board no later than one year after the referral. If the investigative subcommittee does not conclude its review before the end of the Congress in which the report of the Board is made public, the Committee shall make public any findings of the Board on the last day of that Congress.

(g) If the vote of the Committee is a tie or the Committee fails to act by the close of any applicable period(s) under this rule, the report and the findings of the Board shall be made public by the Committee, along with a public statement by the Chair explaining the status of the matter.

(h)(1) If the Committee agrees to a request from an appropriate law enforcement or regulatory authority to defer taking action on a matter referred by the Board under paragraph (b)—

(A) The Committee is not required to make public the written report and findings of the Board pursuant to paragraph (c), except that if the recommendation of the Board is that the matter requires further review, the Committee shall make public the written report of the Board but not the findings; and

(B) The Committee shall make a public statement that it is deferring taking action on the matter at the request of such law en-

forcement or regulatory authority within one day (excluding weekends and public holidays) of the day that the Committee agrees to the request.

(2) If the Committee has not acted on the matter within one year of the date the public statement described in paragraph (h)(1)(B) is released, the Committee shall make a public statement that it continues to defer taking action on the matter. The Committee shall make a new statement upon the expiration of each succeeding one-year period during which the Committee has not acted on the matter.

(i) The Committee shall not accept, and shall return to the Board, any referral from the Board within 60 days before a Federal, State, or local election in which the subject of the referral is a candidate.

(j) The Committee may postpone any reporting requirement under this rule that falls within that 60-day period until after the date of the election in which the subject of the referral is a candidate. For purposes of calculating any applicable period under this Rule, any days within the 60-day period before such an election and the date of the election shall not be counted.

(k)(1) At any time after the Committee receives written notification from the Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics that the Board is undertaking a review of alleged conduct of any Member, officer, or employee of the House at a time when the Committee is investigating, or has completed an investigation of the same matter, the Committee may so notify the Board in writing and request that the Board cease its review and refer the matter to the Committee for its consideration immediately. The Committee shall also notify the Board in writing if the Committee has not reached a final resolution of the matter or has not referred the matter to the appropriate Federal or State authorities by the end of any applicable time period specified in Rule 17A (including any permissible extension).

(2) The Committee may not request a second referral of the matter from the Board if the Committee has notified the Board that it is unable to resolve the matter previously requested pursuant to this section. The Board may subsequently send a referral regarding a matter previously requested and returned by the Committee after the conclusion of the Board's review process.

#### RULE 18. COMMITTEE-INITIATED INQUIRY OR INVESTIGATION

(a) Notwithstanding the absence of a filed complaint, the Committee may consider any information in its possession indicating that a Member, officer, or employee may have committed a violation of the Code of Official Conduct or any law, rule, regulation, or other standard of conduct applicable to the conduct of such Member, officer, or employee in the performance of the duties or the discharge of the responsibilities of such individual. The Chair and Ranking Minority Member may jointly gather additional information concerning such an alleged violation by a Member, officer, or employee unless and until an investigative subcommittee has been established. The Chair and Ranking Minority Member may also jointly take appropriate action consistent with Committee Rules to resolve the matter.

(b) If the Committee votes to establish an investigative subcommittee, the Committee shall proceed in accordance with Rule 19.

(c) Any written request by a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives that the Committee conduct an investigation into such person's own conduct shall be considered in accordance with subsection (a) of this Rule.

(d) An investigation shall not be undertaken regarding any alleged violation that

occurred before the third previous Congress unless a majority of the Committee determines that the alleged violation is directly related to an alleged violation that occurred in a more recent Congress.

(e)(1) An inquiry shall be undertaken by an investigative subcommittee with regard to any felony conviction of a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives in a Federal, State, or local court who has been sentenced. Notwithstanding this provision, the Chair and Ranking Minority Member have the discretion to gather information pursuant to subsection (a) of this Rule, and the Committee has the discretion to initiate an inquiry upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee, at any time prior to conviction or sentencing.

(2) Not later than 30 days after a Member of the House is indicted or otherwise formally charged with criminal conduct in any Federal, State, or local court, the Committee shall either initiate an inquiry upon a majority vote of the members of the Committee or submit a report to the House describing its reasons for not initiating an inquiry and describing the actions, if any, that the Committee has taken in response to the allegations.

(3) In addition to any other evidence which the Committee or investigative subcommittee may consider, the Committee or investigative subcommittee may take into evidence any information related to the subject of an investigation contained in trial transcripts and all exhibits admitted into evidence at trial.

#### RULE 19. INVESTIGATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE

(a)(1) Upon the establishment of an investigative subcommittee, the Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee shall designate four members (with equal representation from the majority and minority parties) to serve as an investigative subcommittee to undertake an inquiry. Members of the Committee and Members of the House selected pursuant to clause 5(a)(4)(A) of Rule X of the House of Representatives are eligible for appointment to an investigative subcommittee, as determined by the Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee. At the time of appointment, the Chair shall designate one member of the subcommittee to serve as the Chair and the Ranking Minority Member shall designate one member of the subcommittee to serve as the ranking minority member of the investigative subcommittee. The Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee may serve as members of an investigative subcommittee, but may not serve as non-voting, ex-officio members.

(2) A respondent shall be notified of the membership of the investigative subcommittee and shall have 10 days after such notice is transmitted to object to the participation of any subcommittee member. Such objection shall be in writing and must be on the grounds that the subcommittee member cannot render an impartial and unbiased decision. The members of the Committee shall engage in a collegial discussion regarding such objection. The subcommittee member against whom the objection is made shall be the sole judge of any disqualification and may choose to seek disqualification from participating in the inquiry pursuant to Rule 9(e).

(b) In an inquiry undertaken by an investigative subcommittee—

(1) All proceedings, including the taking of testimony, shall be conducted in executive session and all evidence or testimony produced pursuant to subpoena or otherwise shall be deemed to have been taken or produced in executive session.

(2) The investigative subcommittee, through any of its members or the staff, shall ask the respondent(s) and all witnesses whether they intend to be represented by counsel. If so, the respondent or witnesses or their legal representatives shall provide written designation of counsel. A respondent or witness who is represented by counsel shall not be questioned in the absence of counsel unless an explicit waiver is obtained.

(3) The subcommittee shall provide the respondent(s) an opportunity to present, orally or in writing, a statement, which must be under oath or affirmation, regarding the allegations and any other relevant questions arising out of the inquiry.

(4) The staff may interview witnesses, examine documents and other evidence, and request that submitted statements be under oath or affirmation and that documents be certified as to their authenticity and accuracy.

(5) The subcommittee, by a majority vote of its members, may require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers, documents, and other items as it deems necessary to the conduct of the inquiry. Unless the Committee otherwise provides, the subpoena power shall rest in the Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee and a subpoena shall be issued upon the request of the investigative subcommittee.

(6) Required testimony shall be given under oath or affirmation. The form of the oath or affirmation shall be: "Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that the testimony you will give before this subcommittee in the matter now under consideration will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth (so help you God)?" The oath or affirmation shall be administered by the Chair or any individual designated by the Chair to administer oaths.

(c) During the inquiry, the procedure respecting the admissibility of evidence and rulings shall be as follows:

(1) Any relevant evidence shall be admissible unless the evidence is privileged under the precedents of the House of Representatives.

(2) The Chair of the subcommittee or other presiding member at any investigative subcommittee proceeding shall rule upon any question of admissibility or relevance of evidence, motion, procedure, or any other matter, and may direct any witness to answer any question under penalty of contempt. A witness, witness counsel, or a member of the subcommittee may appeal any rulings to the members present at that proceeding. A majority vote of the members present at such proceeding on such appeal shall govern the question of admissibility, and no appeal shall lie to the Committee.

(3) Whenever a person is determined by a majority vote to be in contempt of the subcommittee, the matter may be referred to the Committee to determine whether to refer the matter to the House of Representatives for consideration.

(4) Committee counsel may, subject to subcommittee approval, enter into stipulations with a respondent and/or the respondent's counsel as to facts that are not in dispute.

(d) Upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the subcommittee members, and an affirmative vote of a majority of the full Committee, an investigative subcommittee may expand the scope of its inquiry.

(e) Upon completion of the inquiry, the staff shall draft for the investigative subcommittee a report that shall contain a comprehensive summary of the information received regarding the alleged violations.

(f) Upon completion of the inquiry, an investigative subcommittee, by a majority

vote of its members, may adopt a Statement of Alleged Violation if it determines that there is substantial reason to believe that a violation of the Code of Official Conduct, or of a law, rule, regulation, or other standard of conduct applicable to the performance of official duties or the discharge of official responsibilities by a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives has occurred. If more than one violation is alleged, such Statement shall be divided into separate counts. Each count shall relate to a separate violation, shall contain a plain and concise statement of the alleged facts of such violation, and shall include a reference to the provision of the Code of Official Conduct or law, rule, regulation, or other applicable standard of conduct governing the performance of duties or discharge of responsibilities alleged to have been violated. A copy of such Statement shall be transmitted to the respondent and the respondent's counsel.

(g) If the investigative subcommittee does not adopt a Statement of Alleged Violation, it shall transmit to the Committee a report containing a summary of the information received in the inquiry, its conclusions and reasons therefore, and any appropriate recommendation.

(h) An investigative subcommittee may transmit a single report regarding multiple respondents, but shall adopt a separate Statement of Alleged Violation for each respondent where applicable.

#### RULE 20. AMENDMENTS TO STATEMENTS OF ALLEGED VIOLATION

(a) An investigative subcommittee may, upon an affirmative vote of a majority of its members, amend its Statement of Alleged Violation anytime before the Statement of Alleged Violation is transmitted to the Committee; and

(b) If an investigative subcommittee amends its Statement of Alleged Violation, the respondent shall be notified in writing and shall have 30 calendar days from the date of that notification to file an answer to the amended Statement of Alleged Violation.

#### RULE 21. COMMITTEE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

(a) Whenever an investigative subcommittee does not adopt a Statement of Alleged Violation and transmits a report to that effect to the Committee, the Committee may by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members transmit such report to the House of Representatives;

(b) Whenever an investigative subcommittee adopts a Statement of Alleged Violation but recommends that no further action be taken, it shall transmit a report to the Committee regarding the Statement of Alleged Violation; and

(c) Whenever an investigative subcommittee adopts a Statement of Alleged Violation, the respondent admits to the violations set forth in such Statement, the respondent waives the right to an adjudicatory hearing, and the respondent's waiver is approved by the Committee—

(1) the subcommittee shall prepare a report for transmittal to the Committee, a final draft of which shall be provided to the respondent not less than 15 calendar days before the subcommittee votes on whether to adopt the report;

(2) the respondent may submit views in writing regarding the final draft to the subcommittee within 7 calendar days of receipt of that draft;

(3) the subcommittee shall transmit a report to the Committee regarding the Statement of Alleged Violation together with any views submitted by the respondent pursuant to subparagraph (2), and the Committee shall make the report, together with the respondent's

views, available to the public before the commencement of any sanction hearing; and

(4) the Committee shall by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members issue a report and transmit such report to the House of Representatives, together with the respondent's views previously submitted pursuant to subparagraph (2) and any additional views respondent may submit for attachment to the final report; and

(d) Members of the Committee shall have not less than 72 hours to review any report transmitted to the Committee by an investigative subcommittee before both the commencement of a sanction hearing and the Committee vote on whether to adopt the report.

#### RULE 22. RESPONDENT'S ANSWER

(a)(1) Within 30 days from the date of transmittal of a Statement of Alleged Violation, the respondent shall file with the investigative subcommittee an answer, in writing and under oath, signed by respondent and respondent's counsel. Failure to file an answer within the time prescribed shall be considered by the Committee as a denial of each count.

(2) The answer shall contain an admission to or denial of each count set forth in the Statement of Alleged Violation and may include negative, affirmative, or alternative defenses and any supporting evidence or other relevant information.

(b) The respondent may file a Motion for a Bill of Particulars within 10 days of the date of transmittal of the Statement of Alleged Violation. If a Motion for a Bill of Particulars is filed, the respondent shall not be required to file an answer until 20 days after the subcommittee has replied to such motion.

(c)(1) The respondent may file a Motion to Dismiss within 10 days of the date of transmittal of the Statement of Alleged Violation or, if a Motion for a Bill of Particulars has been filed, within 10 days of the date of the subcommittee's reply to the Motion for a Bill of Particulars. If a Motion to Dismiss is filed, the respondent shall not be required to file an answer until 20 days after the subcommittee has replied to the Motion to Dismiss, unless the respondent previously filed a Motion for a Bill of Particulars, in which case the respondent shall not be required to file an answer until 10 days after the subcommittee has replied to the Motion to Dismiss. The investigative subcommittee shall rule upon any motion to dismiss filed during the period between the establishment of the subcommittee and the subcommittee's transmittal of a report or Statement of Alleged Violation to the Committee or to the Chair and Ranking Minority Member at the conclusion of an inquiry, and no appeal of the subcommittee's ruling shall lie to the Committee.

(2) A Motion to Dismiss may be made on the grounds that the Statement of Alleged Violation fails to state facts that constitute a violation of the Code of Official Conduct or other applicable law, rule, regulation, or standard of conduct, or on the grounds that the Committee lacks jurisdiction to consider the allegations contained in the Statement.

(d) Any motion filed with the subcommittee pursuant to this rule shall be accompanied by a Memorandum of Points and Authorities.

(e)(1) The Chair of the investigative subcommittee, for good cause shown, may permit the respondent to file an answer or motion after the day prescribed above.

(2) If the ability of the respondent to present an adequate defense is not adversely affected and special circumstances so require, the Chair of the investigative subcommittee may direct the respondent to file

an answer or motion prior to the day prescribed above.

(f) If the day on which any answer, motion, reply, or other pleading must be filed falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or public holiday, such filing shall be made on the first business day thereafter.

(g) As soon as practicable after an answer has been filed or the time for such filing has expired, the Statement of Alleged Violation and any answer, motion, reply, or other pleading connected therewith shall be transmitted by the Chair of the investigative subcommittee to the Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee.

#### RULE 23. ADJUDICATORY HEARINGS

(a) If a Statement of Alleged Violation is transmitted to the Chair and Ranking Minority Member pursuant to Rule 22, and no waiver pursuant to Rule 26(b) has occurred, the Chair shall designate the members of the Committee who did not serve on the investigative subcommittee to serve on an adjudicatory subcommittee. The Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee shall be the Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the adjudicatory subcommittee unless they served on the investigative subcommittee. The respondent shall be notified of the designation of the adjudicatory subcommittee and shall have 10 days after such notice is transmitted to object to the participation of any subcommittee member. Such objection shall be in writing and shall be on the grounds that the member cannot render an impartial and unbiased decision. The members of the Committee shall engage in a collegial discussion regarding such objection. The member against whom the objection is made shall be the sole judge of any disqualification and may choose to seek disqualification from serving on the subcommittee pursuant to Rule 9(e).

(b) A majority of the adjudicatory subcommittee membership plus one must be present at all times for the conduct of any business pursuant to this rule.

(c) The adjudicatory subcommittee shall hold a hearing to determine whether any counts in the Statement of Alleged Violation have been proved by clear and convincing evidence and shall make findings of fact, except where such violations have been admitted by respondent.

(d) The subcommittee may require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and production of such books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers, documents, and other items as it deems necessary. A subpoena for documents may specify terms of return other than at a meeting or hearing of the subcommittee. Depositions, interrogatories, and sworn statements taken under any investigative subcommittee direction may be accepted into the hearing record.

(e) The procedures set forth in clause 2(g)(1)–(4), (6)–(7) and (k) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives shall apply to adjudicatory hearings. All such hearings shall be open to the public unless the adjudicatory subcommittee, pursuant to such clause, determines that the hearings or any part thereof should be closed.

(f)(1) The adjudicatory subcommittee shall, in writing, notify the respondent that the respondent and respondent's counsel have the right to inspect, review, copy, or photograph books, papers, documents, photographs, or other tangible objects that committee counsel intends to use as evidence against the respondent in an adjudicatory hearing. The respondent shall be given access to such evidence, and shall be provided the names of witnesses committee counsel intends to call, and a summary of their expected testimony, no less than 15 calendar days prior to any

such hearing. Except in extraordinary circumstances, no evidence may be introduced or witness called in an adjudicatory hearing unless the respondent has been afforded a prior opportunity to review such evidence or has been provided the name of the witness.

(2) After a witness has testified on direct examination at an adjudicatory hearing, the Committee, at the request of the respondent, shall make available to the respondent any statement of the witness in the possession of the Committee which relates to the subject matter as to which the witness has testified.

(3) Any other testimony, statement, or documentary evidence in the possession of the Committee which is material to the respondent's defense shall, upon request, be made available to the respondent.

(g) No less than 5 days prior to the hearing, the respondent or counsel shall provide the adjudicatory subcommittee with the names of witnesses expected to be called, summaries of their expected testimony, and copies of any documents or other evidence proposed to be introduced.

(h) The respondent or counsel may apply to the subcommittee for the issuance of subpoenas for the appearance of witnesses or the production of evidence. The application shall be granted upon a showing by the respondent that the proposed testimony or evidence is relevant and not otherwise available to respondent. The application may be denied if not made at a reasonable time or if the testimony or evidence would be merely cumulative.

(i) No later than two weeks or 5 legislative days after the Chair of the Committee designates members to serve on an adjudicatory subcommittee, whichever is later, the Chair of the adjudicatory subcommittee shall establish a schedule and procedure for the hearing and for prehearing matters. The procedures may be changed either by the Chair of the adjudicatory subcommittee or by a majority vote of the members of the subcommittee. If the Chair makes prehearing rulings upon any question of admissibility or relevance of evidence, motion, procedure, or any other matter, the Chair shall make available those rulings to all subcommittee members at the time of the ruling.

(j) The procedures regarding the admissibility of evidence and rulings shall be as follows:

(1) Any relevant evidence shall be admissible unless the evidence is privileged under the precedents of the House of Representatives.

(2) The Chair of the subcommittee or other presiding member at an adjudicatory subcommittee hearing shall rule upon any question of admissibility or relevance of evidence, motion, procedure, or any other matter, and may direct any witness to answer any question under penalty of contempt. A witness, witness counsel, or a member of the subcommittee may appeal any ruling to the members present at that proceeding. A majority vote of the members present at such proceeding on such an appeal shall govern the question of admissibility and no appeal shall lie to the Committee.

(3) Whenever a witness is deemed by a Chair or other presiding member to be in contempt of the subcommittee, the matter may be referred to the Committee to determine whether to refer the matter to the House of Representatives for consideration.

(4) Committee counsel may, subject to subcommittee approval, enter into stipulations with the respondent and/or the respondent's counsel as to facts that are not in dispute.

(k) Unless otherwise provided, the order of an adjudicatory hearing shall be as follows:

(1) The Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the subcommittee shall open the hearing with equal time and during which time,

the Chair shall state the adjudicatory subcommittee's authority to conduct the hearing and the purpose of the hearing.

(2) The Chair shall then recognize Committee counsel and the respondent's counsel, in turn, for the purpose of giving opening statements.

(3) Testimony from witnesses and other relevant evidence shall be received in the following order whenever possible:

(i) witnesses (deposition transcripts and affidavits obtained during the inquiry may be used in lieu of live witnesses) and other evidence offered by Committee counsel,

(ii) witnesses and other evidence offered by the respondent,

(iii) rebuttal witnesses, as permitted by the Chair.

(4) Witnesses at a hearing shall be examined first by counsel calling such witness. The opposing counsel may then cross-examine the witness. Redirect examination and recross examination by counsel may be permitted at the Chair's discretion. Subcommittee members may then question witnesses. Unless otherwise directed by the Chair, questions by Subcommittee members shall be conducted under the five-minute rule.

(5) The Chair shall then recognize Committee counsel and respondent's counsel, in turn, for the purpose of giving closing arguments. Committee counsel may reserve time for rebuttal argument, as permitted by the Chair.

(1) A subpoena to a witness to appear at a hearing shall be served sufficiently in advance of that witness' scheduled appearance to allow the witness a reasonable period of time, as determined by the Chair of the adjudicatory subcommittee, to prepare for the hearing and to employ counsel.

(m) Each witness appearing before the subcommittee shall be furnished a printed or electronic copy of the Committee rules, the relevant provisions of the Rules of the House of Representatives applicable to the rights of witnesses, and a copy of the Statement of Alleged Violation.

(n) Testimony of all witnesses shall be taken under oath or affirmation. The form of the oath or affirmation shall be: "Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that the testimony you will give before this subcommittee in the matter now under consideration will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth (so help you God)?" The oath or affirmation shall be administered by the Chair or Committee member designated by the Chair to administer oaths.

(o) At an adjudicatory hearing, the burden of proof rests on Committee counsel to establish the facts alleged in the Statement of Alleged Violation by clear and convincing evidence. However, Committee counsel need not present any evidence regarding any count that is admitted by the respondent or any fact stipulated. Committee counsel or respondent's counsel may move the adjudicatory subcommittee to make a finding that there is no material fact at issue. If the adjudicatory subcommittee finds that there is no material fact at issue, the burden of proof will be deemed satisfied.

(p) As soon as practicable after all testimony and evidence have been presented, the subcommittee shall consider each count contained in the Statement of Alleged Violation and shall determine by a majority vote of its members whether each count has been proved. If a majority of the subcommittee does not vote that a count has been proved, a motion to reconsider that vote may be made only by a member who voted that the count was not proved. A count that is not proved shall be considered as dismissed by the subcommittee.

(q) The findings of the adjudicatory subcommittee shall be reported to the Committee.

**RULE 24. SANCTION HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF SANCTIONS OR OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

(a) If no count in a Statement of Alleged Violation is proved, the Committee shall prepare a report to the House of Representatives, based upon the report of the adjudicatory subcommittee.

(b) If an adjudicatory subcommittee completes an adjudicatory hearing pursuant to Rule 23 and reports that any count of the Statement of Alleged Violation has been proved, a hearing before the Committee shall be held to receive oral and/or written submissions by counsel for the Committee and counsel for the respondent as to the sanction the Committee should recommend to the House of Representatives with respect to such violations. Testimony by witnesses shall not be heard except by written request and vote of a majority of the Committee.

(c) Upon completion of any proceeding held pursuant to clause (b), the Committee shall consider and vote on a motion to recommend to the House of Representatives that the House take disciplinary action. If a majority of the Committee does not vote in favor of the recommendation that the House of Representatives take action, a motion to reconsider that vote may be made only by a member who voted against the recommendation. The Committee may also, by majority vote, adopt a motion to issue a Letter of Reproval or take other appropriate Committee action.

(d) If the Committee determines a Letter of Reproval constitutes sufficient action, the Committee shall include any such letter as a part of its report to the House of Representatives.

(e) With respect to any proved counts against a Member of the House of Representatives, the Committee may recommend to the House one or more of the following sanctions:

(1) Expulsion from the House of Representatives.

(2) Censure.

(3) Reprimand.

(4) Fine.

(5) Denial or limitation of any right, power, privilege, or immunity of the Member if under the Constitution the House of Representatives may impose such denial or limitation.

(6) Any other sanction determined by the Committee to be appropriate.

(f) With respect to any proved counts against an officer or employee of the House of Representatives, the Committee may recommend to the House one or more of the following sanctions:

(1) Dismissal from employment.

(2) Reprimand.

(3) Fine.

(4) Any other sanction determined by the Committee to be appropriate.

(g) With respect to the sanctions that the Committee may recommend, reprimand is appropriate for serious violations, censure is appropriate for more serious violations, and expulsion of a Member or dismissal of an officer or employee is appropriate for the most serious violations. A recommendation of a fine is appropriate in a case in which it is likely that the violation was committed to secure a personal financial benefit; and a recommendation of a denial or limitation of a right, power, privilege, or immunity of a Member is appropriate when the violation bears upon the exercise or holding of such right, power, privilege, or immunity. This clause sets forth general guidelines and does not limit the authority of the Committee to recommend other sanctions.

(h) The Committee report shall contain an appropriate statement of the evidence supporting the Committee's findings and a

statement of the Committee's reasons for the recommended sanction.

**RULE 25. DISCLOSURE OF EXCULPATORY INFORMATION TO RESPONDENT**

If the Committee, or any investigative or adjudicatory subcommittee at any time receives any exculpatory information respecting a Complaint or Statement of Alleged Violation concerning a respondent, it shall make such information known and available to the respondent as soon as practicable, but in no event later than the transmittal of evidence supporting a proposed Statement of Alleged Violation pursuant to Rule 26(c). If an investigative subcommittee does not adopt a Statement of Alleged Violation, it shall identify any exculpatory information in its possession at the conclusion of its inquiry and shall include such information, if any, in the subcommittee's final report to the Committee regarding its inquiry. For purposes of this rule, exculpatory evidence shall be any evidence or information that is substantially favorable to the respondent with respect to the allegations or charges before an investigative or adjudicatory subcommittee.

**RULE 26. RIGHTS OF RESPONDENTS AND WITNESSES**

(a) A respondent shall be informed of the right to be represented by counsel, to be provided at the respondent's own expense.

(b) A respondent may seek to waive any procedural rights or steps in the disciplinary process. A request for waiver must be in writing, signed by the respondent, and must detail what procedural steps the respondent seeks to waive. Any such request shall be subject to the acceptance of the Committee or subcommittee, as appropriate.

(c) Not less than 10 calendar days before a scheduled vote by an investigative subcommittee on a Statement of Alleged Violation, the subcommittee shall provide the respondent with a copy of the Statement of Alleged Violation it intends to adopt together with all evidence it intends to use to prove those charges which it intends to adopt, including documentary evidence, witness testimony, memoranda of witness interviews, and physical evidence, unless the subcommittee by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members decides to withhold certain evidence in order to protect a witness, but if such evidence is withheld, the subcommittee shall inform the respondent that evidence is being withheld and of the count to which such evidence relates.

(d) Neither the respondent nor respondent's counsel shall, directly or indirectly, contact the subcommittee or any member thereof during the period of time set forth in paragraph (c) except for the sole purpose of settlement discussions where counsels for the respondent and the subcommittee are present.

(e) If, at any time after the issuance of a Statement of Alleged Violation, the Committee or any subcommittee thereof determines that it intends to use evidence not provided to a respondent under paragraph (c) to prove the charges contained in the Statement of Alleged Violation (or any amendment thereof), such evidence shall be made immediately available to the respondent, and it may be used in any further proceeding under the Committee's rules.

(f) Evidence provided pursuant to paragraph (c) or (e) shall be made available to the respondent and respondent's counsel only after each agrees, in writing, that no document, information, or other materials obtained pursuant to that paragraph shall be made public until—

(1) such time as a Statement of Alleged Violation is made public by the Committee if the respondent has waived the adjudicatory hearing; or

(2) the commencement of an adjudicatory hearing if the respondent has not waived an adjudicatory hearing; but the failure of respondent and respondent's counsel to so agree in writing, and therefore not receive the evidence, shall not preclude the issuance of a Statement of Alleged Violation at the end of the period referenced to in (c).

(g) If the Committee issues a report with respect to a claim referred to the Committee by the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights pursuant to Section 416(e) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995, the Committee shall ensure that the report does not directly disclose the identity or position of the individual who filed the claim.

(h) A respondent shall receive written notice whenever—

(1) the Chair and Ranking Minority Member determine that information the Committee has received constitutes a complaint;

(2) a complaint or allegation is transmitted to an investigative subcommittee;

(3) that subcommittee votes to authorize its first subpoena or to take testimony under oath, whichever occurs first;

(4) the Committee votes to expand the scope of the inquiry of an investigative subcommittee; and

(5) the Committee or an investigative subcommittee determines to take into evidence the trial transcript or exhibits admitted into evidence at a criminal trial pursuant to Rule 18(e)(3).

(i) Whenever an investigative subcommittee adopts a Statement of Alleged Violation and a respondent enters into an agreement with that subcommittee to settle an investigation, in whole or in part, on which the Statement is based, that agreement, unless the respondent requests otherwise, shall be in writing and signed by the respondent and the respondent's counsel, the Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the subcommittee, and outside counsel, if any.

(j) Statements or information derived solely from a respondent or respondent's counsel during any settlement discussions between the Committee or a subcommittee thereof and the respondent shall not be included in any report of the subcommittee or the Committee or otherwise publicly disclosed without the consent of the respondent.

(k) Whenever a motion to establish an investigative subcommittee does not prevail, the Committee shall promptly send a letter to the respondent(s) informing the respondent(s) of such vote.

(l) Witnesses shall be afforded a reasonable period of time, as determined by the Committee or subcommittee, to prepare for an appearance before an investigative subcommittee or for an adjudicatory hearing and to obtain counsel.

(m) Prior to their testimony, witnesses shall be furnished a printed or electronic copy of the Committee's Rules and the provisions of the Rules of the House of Representatives applicable to the rights of witnesses.

(n) Witnesses may be accompanied by their own counsel for the purpose of advising them concerning their constitutional rights. The Chair may punish breaches of order and decorum, and of professional responsibility on the part of counsel, by censure and exclusion from the hearings; and the Committee may cite the offender to the House of Representatives for contempt.

(o) Each witness subpoenaed to provide testimony or other evidence shall be provided the same per diem rate as established, authorized, and regulated by the Committee on House Administration for Members, officers, and employees of the House, and, as the Chair considers appropriate, actual expenses of travel to or from the place of examination. No compensation shall be authorized

for attorney's fees or for a witness' lost earnings. Such per diem may not be paid if a witness had been summoned at the place of examination.

(p) With the approval of the Committee, a witness, upon request, may be provided with a transcript of the witness' own deposition or other testimony taken in executive session, or, with the approval of the Chair and Ranking Minority Member, may be permitted to examine such transcript in the office of the Committee. Any such request shall be in writing and shall include a statement that the witness, and counsel, agree to maintain the confidentiality of all executive session proceedings covered by such transcript.

#### RULE 27. FRIVOLOUS FILINGS

If a complaint or information offered as a complaint is deemed frivolous by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee, the Committee may take such action as it, by an affirmative vote of a majority deems appropriate in the circumstances.

#### RULE 28. REFERRALS TO FEDERAL OR STATE AUTHORITIES

Referrals made under clause 3(a)(3) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives may be made by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Committee.

### SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 725. An act to change the address of the postal facility designated in honor of Captain Humayun Khan; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

### SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker on Friday, March 8, 2019, announced her signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 49—An act to designate the outstation of the Department of Veterans Affairs in North Ogden, Utah, as the Major Brent Taylor Vet Center Outstation.

### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, March 12, 2019, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

### BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 758, the Cooperate with Law Enforcement Agencies and Watch Act of 2019, would have no significant effect on direct spending or revenues, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YAR-

MUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 974, the Federal Reserve Supervision Testimony Clarification Act, would have no significant effect on direct spending or revenues, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. DESAULNIER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 208. Resolution providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 24) expressing the sense of Congress that the report of Special Counsel Mueller should be made available to the public and to Congress, and providing for proceedings during the period from March 15, 2019, through March 22, 2019 (Rept. 116-17). Referred to the House Calendar.

### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. MARCHANT (for himself and Ms. SEWELL of Alabama):

H.R. 1662. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to establish a pilot program to provide grants to secondary schools for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services and to create programs to benefit students with autism or apraxia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. CHABOT (for himself and Mr. RASKIN):

H.R. 1663. A bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to revise the Federal charter for the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BISHOP of Utah (for himself, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. STEWART, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. WESTERMAN, and Mr. CURTIS):

H.R. 1664. A bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to reform the Antiquities Act of 1906, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. STEVENS (for herself and Mr. BAIRD):

H.R. 1665. A bill to direct the National Science Foundation to support STEM education research focused on early childhood; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida (for herself and Mr. LUETKEMEYER):

H.R. 1666. A bill to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to allow for the consideration of private flood insurance for the purposes of applying continuous coverage requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GOTTHEIMER (for himself and Mr. KING of New York):

H.R. 1667. A bill to require a report on the contingency plan of the Department of Transportation in the event of the failure of a rail track in the North River Tunnel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois (for herself, Mr. HURD of Texas, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. BUDD, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. MAR-

SHALL, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. RATCLIFFE, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. SOTO, Mr. WALKER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. FOSTER, and Mr. BAIRD):

H.R. 1668. A bill to leverage Federal Government procurement power to encourage increased cybersecurity for Internet of Things devices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KING of New York (for himself, Miss RICE of New York, and Mr. SUOZZI):

H.R. 1669. A bill to direct the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating to study and report to the Congress regarding recreational vessel operator training; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself and Mr. KING of New York):

H.R. 1670. A bill to prevent gun trafficking; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. QUIGLEY (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. KING of New York, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. ROSE of New York, Mr. UPTON, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LAMB, Mr. STIVERS, Ms. DEAN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. KATKO, and Mr. BACON):

H.R. 1671. A bill to provide for the reporting to State and local law enforcement authorities of cases in which the national instant criminal background check system indicates that a firearm has been sought to be acquired by a prohibited person, so that authorities may pursue criminal charges under State law, and to ensure that the Department of Justice reports to Congress on prosecutions secured against prohibited persons who attempt to acquire a firearm; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ROONEY of Florida:

H.R. 1672. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to ensure that public institutions of higher education protect expressive activities in the outdoor areas on campus; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia (for himself, Mr. DUNN, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, and Mr. SCHRADER):

H.R. 1673. A bill to amend the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999 with respect to the definition of agricultural commodities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. TIPTON (for himself and Mr. CROW):

H.R. 1674. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to expedite the onboarding process for new medical providers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to reduce the duration of the hiring process for such medical providers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. TLAIB (for herself and Ms. KELLY of Illinois):

H.R. 1675. A bill to require a study on the public health and environmental impacts of the production, transportation, storage, and use of petroleum coke, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. POCAN,

Mr. KILMER, Ms. TITUS, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CRIST, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. TONKO, Mr. VELA, Mr. COHEN, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. WILD, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. MOORE, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. RYAN, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. NADLER, Mr. CORREA, Mr. PALONE, and Ms. MCCOLLUM):

H.R. 1676. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to expand access to school-wide arts and music programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. YOHO (for himself, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. MCCAULY):

H.R. 1677. A bill to repeal certain foreign affairs reporting requirements; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CUMMINGS:

H. Res. 207. A resolution providing amounts for the expenses of the Committee on Oversight and Reform in the One Hundred Sixteenth Congress; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER (for himself and Mrs. RODGERS of Washington):

H. Res. 209. A resolution declaring support for Brain Awareness Week; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS (for himself and Mr. WALKER):

H. Res. 210. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the month of April 2019 as Second Chance Month; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DEFAZIO (for himself and Mr. GRAVES of Missouri):

H. Res. 211. A resolution providing amounts for the expenses of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure in the One Hundred Sixteenth Congress; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. DEUTCH:

H. Res. 212. A resolution providing amounts for the expenses of the Committee on Ethics in the One Hundred Sixteenth Congress; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. LAWSON of Florida (for himself, Mr. POSEY, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. MAST, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. DUNN, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. SPANO, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mrs. MURPHY, Mr. DEUTCH, and Mr. SOTO):

H. Res. 213. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Women Veterans Recognition Week; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. PANETTA (for himself and Mr. MAST):

H. Res. 214. A resolution supporting the goals to protect United States military personnel from malaria; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself and Mr. NUNES):

H. Res. 215. A resolution providing amounts for the expenses of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence in the One Hundred Sixteenth Congress; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself and Ms. NORTON):

H. Res. 216. A resolution expressing support for designation of March 2019 as Music in Our Schools Month; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

### CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. MARCHANT:

H.R. 1662.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 1: To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States

By Mr. CHABOT:

H.R. 1663.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8, clause 18, that the Congress shall have Power To . . . make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. BISHOP of Utah:

H.R. 1664.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, clause 2

By Ms. STEVENS:

H.R. 1665.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida:

H.R. 1666.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the explicit power of Congress to regulate commerce in and among the states, as enumerate in Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3, the Commerce Clause, of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GOTTHEIMER:

H.R. 1667.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution of the United States

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 1668.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution

By Mr. KING of New York:

H.R. 1669.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 1670.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. QUIGLEY:

H.R. 1671.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. ROONEY of Florida:

H.R. 1672.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia:

H.R. 1673.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. TIPTON:

H.R. 1674.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

section 8 of Article I of Constitution

By Ms. TLAIB:

H.R. 1675.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 provides Congress with the power to "regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 1676.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .

By Mr. YOHO:

H.R. 1677.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8

### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 20: Mr. ADERHOLT.

H.R. 33: Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Ms. DEAN.

H.R. 35: Ms. DEAN, Mr. ROSE of New York, Ms. WATERS, Mr. RASKIN, and Mr. VISLOSKEY.

H.R. 36: Ms. DEAN, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, and Mr. PALLONE.

H.R. 51: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

H.R. 55: Ms. CLARKE of New York.

H.R. 125: Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H.R. 155: Mr. BACON.

H.R. 194: Mr. RESCHENTHALER.

H.R. 230: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois and Mr. THOMPSON of California.

H.R. 273: Mr. THOMPSON of California.

H.R. 275: Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Ms. CLARKE of New York.

H.R. 303: Mr. KATKO, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. SCHRADER, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 330: Miss RICE of New York and Mr. TAKANO.

H.R. 402: Mr. BIGGS and Mr. STANTON.

H.R. 435: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. UNDERWOOD, and Mrs. DINGELL.

H.R. 490: Mr. RICE of South Carolina.

H.R. 510: Mr. WALDEN, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, and Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico.

H.R. 511: Ms. DEAN.

H.R. 530: Mr. ENGEL.

H.R. 535: Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 553: Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CROW, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. ARMSTRONG, and Mr. BRINDISI.

H.R. 568: Mr. TRONE.

H.R. 582: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.

H.R. 596: Mr. TAYLOR.

H.R. 613: Mr. MCADAMS, Mr. RUTHERFORD, and Mr. CURTIS.

- H.R. 651: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire and Mr. RESCIENTHALER.  
H.R. 663: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.  
H.R. 665: Mr. NEGUSE and Ms. JAYAPAL.  
H.R. 692: Mr. HUDSON.  
H.R. 693: Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. KIND.  
H.R. 728: Mr. TONKO.  
H.R. 736: Mr. TAYLOR.  
H.R. 737: Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CASE, Mr. CORREA, Mr. COX of California, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. OLSON, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. WRIGHT.  
H.R. 738: Ms. WATERS.  
H.R. 748: Mrs. HAYES, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. BAIRD, and Mr. SOTO.  
H.R. 757: Mrs. LEE of Nevada.  
H.R. 758: Mr. TAYLOR.  
H.R. 761: Mr. QUIGLEY.  
H.R. 803: Mr. MARSHALL.  
H.R. 808: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and Mr. LYNCH.  
H.R. 856: Mr. GIANFORTE.  
H.R. 864: Mr. BUCHANAN.  
H.R. 874: Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.  
H.R. 878: Mr. HURD of Texas.  
H.R. 890: Mr. WENSTRUP.  
H.R. 919: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.  
H.R. 925: Mr. KIND.  
H.R. 943: Mr. ZELDIN, Ms. MENG, Mr. KATKO, and Mr. RASKIN.  
H.R. 945: Mr. MOULTON and Mr. FITZPATRICK.  
H.R. 959: Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. BRADY, Mr. MEADOWS, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. KING of Iowa, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.  
H.R. 960: Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. BRADY, Mr. MEADOWS, Ms. STEFANIK, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia.  
H.R. 965: Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. COLE, Mr. GALLAGHER, and Mr. LIPINSKI.  
H.R. 973: Mr. CISNEROS and Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 974: Mr. TAYLOR.  
H.R. 983: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and Ms. WILD.  
H.R. 985: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.  
H.R. 997: Mr. NORMAN.  
H.R. 1002: Ms. HAALAND, Mr. KIND, and Ms. JUDY CHU of California.  
H.R. 1019: Mr. BERGMAN.  
H.R. 1049: Mr. CUMMINGS.  
H.R. 1058: Mr. MEEKS, Mr. KIM, and Mr. WELCH.  
H.R. 1074: Mrs. HAYES.  
H.R. 1080: Mr. SERRANO, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Mr. CORREA.  
H.R. 1108: Mr. BACON, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. ESTES, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. MAST, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. ROSE of New York, Mr. SUOZZI, and Mr. YOUNG.  
H.R. 1126: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.  
H.R. 1134: Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 1137: Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL.  
H.R. 1139: Mr. CLEAVER and Ms. JUDY CHU of California.  
H.R. 1142: Mr. PHILLIPS.  
H.R. 1153: Ms. JUDY CHU of California.  
H.R. 1163: Mr. TURNER.  
H.R. 1169: Mr. SMITH of Washington.  
H.R. 1185: Mr. VISCLOSKEY and Ms. KELLY of Illinois.  
H.R. 1225: Mrs. MCBATH, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. CUELLAR, and Mr. TAKANO.  
H.R. 1226: Ms. PINGREE, Mr. RUTHERFORD, and Mr. CROW.  
H.R. 1233: Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 1234: Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas and Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 1266: Mr. KHANNA and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.  
H.R. 1279: Mr. CUMMINGS.  
H.R. 1292: Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas.  
H.R. 1297: Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 1300: Mr. BEYER, Ms. MOORE, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Ms. WILD.  
H.R. 1309: Mrs. HAYES, Mr. VISCLOSKEY, Ms. MOORE, and Mr. RYAN.  
H.R. 1327: Mr. CROW, Mr. POCAN, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Mr. RUTHERFORD.  
H.R. 1339: Mr. GUTHRIE.  
H.R. 1342: Mr. PAYNE, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. MATSUI, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. POCAN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, and Mr. HECK.  
H.R. 1346: Ms. SCANLON.  
H.R. 1366: Mr. BIGGS, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. KATKO, and Ms. PINGREE.  
H.R. 1368: Ms. SCANLON.  
H.R. 1379: Mr. PHILLIPS and Mr. TONKO.  
H.R. 1380: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. TONKO, Mr. KIND, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.  
H.R. 1396: Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. COHEN, Mr. KILMER, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. BUSTOS, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.  
H.R. 1404: Mr. TAYLOR.  
H.R. 1407: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, and Mr. CROW.  
H.R. 1411: Mr. RUTHERFORD.  
H.R. 1412: Mrs. LESKO.  
H.R. 1414: Mr. TAYLOR.  
H.R. 1418: Ms. JUDY CHU of California.  
H.R. 1420: Mr. MCKINLEY.  
H.R. 1423: Mr. CROW.  
H.R. 1425: Mr. HECK.  
H.R. 1433: Miss RICE of New York and Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 1435: Mr. BERA.  
H.R. 1479: Mr. GOLDEN.  
H.R. 1497: Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. COHEN, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.  
H.R. 1512: Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 1528: Mr. TONKO and Mr. TURNER.  
H.R. 1534: Mr. COHEN and Mr. TRONE.  
H.R. 1536: Mr. COLE.  
H.R. 1545: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. BYRNE, and Mr. NORMAN.  
H.R. 1560: Mr. SCHIFF.  
H.R. 1569: Mr. STANTON.  
H.R. 1570: Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. RUTHERFORD, and Mr. COLE.  
H.R. 1572: Mr. GROTHMAN.  
H.R. 1576: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.  
H.R. 1582: Mr. TAYLOR.  
H.R. 1595: Mr. AMODEI, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. POCAN, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. MCCLINTOCK.  
H.R. 1603: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.  
H.R. 1605: Mr. NORMAN and Mr. HOLDING.  
H.R. 1617: Mr. TAYLOR.  
H.R. 1620: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. RIGGLEMAN, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, and Mr. TRONE.  
H.R. 1622: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. COHEN, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. KILMER, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. NORTON, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SOTO, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. TITUS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. CISNEROS, Ms. HAALAND, and Ms. HILL of California.  
H.R. 1629: Mr. LOWENTHAL and Ms. GABBARD.  
H.R. 1643: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Mr. POCAN.  
H.J. Res. 2: Mr. DELGADO.  
H.J. Res. 38: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. VELA, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. DEUTCH.  
H. Con. Res. 20: Mr. KATKO and Mr. HARDER of California.  
H. Con. Res. 24: Ms. LOFGREN and Mr. DOGGETT.  
H. Res. 23: Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. LAHOOD.  
H. Res. 39: Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.  
H. Res. 60: Mr. VISCLOSKEY and Mr. CROW.  
H. Res. 72: Mr. FITZPATRICK.  
H. Res. 88: Mr. KENNEDY and Mr. LYNCH.  
H. Res. 107: Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. CHABOT, and Mr. TAYLOR.  
H. Res. 116: Mr. HIMES, Mr. HUDSON, and Mrs. HARTZLER.  
H. Res. 129: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan and Mr. SUOZZI.  
H. Res. 133: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.  
H. Res. 154: Ms. WEXTON.  
H. Res. 156: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. TAYLOR, and Ms. NORTON.  
H. Res. 171: Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. CUMMINGS.  
H. Res. 173: Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. CRIST, and Mr. CARBAJAL.  
H. Res. 177: Mr. ALLRED.  
H. Res. 190: Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. LOFGREN, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.